

# GOLMAN'S RURAL WORLD



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## IS LABOR DEGRADING?

There are at least two kinds of labor, viz: physical and mental. The first can not be well performed unless accompanied by the second in a more or less degree—for all labor should be directed by intelligence. If a man has to commence at the lowest round of the ladder, as most men have to do, and his labor is such as requires but little mental effort—can not his ambitious mind—if he has such—be engaged in working out the great problem of life, viz., human happiness? Suppose a man is a coal heaver on a steamer, can he not be also a good man, laboring with a will for his own advancement to a better position; cheered by the thought of loved ones at home, dependent, it may be, on his daily earnings? We do not say that a man should be satisfied with such attainments as those of a mere laboring drudge; but, by performing well a coal heaver's duty, may he not rise to be watchman or mate, having in his keeping the lives of passengers and crew, as much as the man who has hold of the helm of the steamer and directs its course? On the other hand, the man who is by education fitted for a captain's or a pilot's position, and who owes his place to favoritism and appointment, may be a perfect brute; full of passion and vice, and less fitted by heart or conscience to have in his keeping the life of a human being, than the sober, wide-awake coal heaver, who, for the time, must obey his commands.

"Honor and fame from no condition rise:  
Act well your part, there all the honor lies!"

So thought the member of Parliament, who, when taunted by a Lord (who held his position by right of birth, perhaps,) with having blacked his father's boots, replied: "Did I not do it well, my Lord?"

Is mental labor more ennobling than physical? Abstractly, yes; because the man capable of performing it has ability, and is, perhaps, by nature or education fitted for a greater degree of usefulness and happiness—if his efforts are well directed. Evidence and examples, however, are not wanting, where men of the highest mental powers and attainments have prostituted the same for the lowest and basest ends and purposes; and, fired by unholy ambition, or passions, have become an unmitigated

curse to mankind. Or, take a picture of a lighter shade: Is the book-keeper in bank or store a better man than the porter, simply because he is able to cast up and keep accounts? or, is he less a slave to position when he must lose two or three hours of sleep, three nights out of four, laboring over his cash accounts, which will not balance? May he not, with all his ability, be a very bad man at heart? Is he not beset by greater temptations? Are there more successful merchants, brokers or bankers, than mechanics or farmers? Are they necessarily more happy? We answer, No! Is farm labor more degrading than mechanical or mental labor? If it is, we are not sufficiently enlightened to see it. We do know that in the abstract act of labor there may not be the element of enjoyment to indolent men; but any labor, if performed in the right spirit, and for the benefit of self and others, has no necessarily degrading element. It cannot have; or we must charge Him who imposed it, with error or unkindness.

Labor, especially farm labor, was made necessary to man's happiness, for his physical and moral well being. The pursuit of happiness is one of the inalienable rights of man. Through all the avenues of life, by fair means and foul, men are pursuing happiness—at least earthly happiness; and, singularly enough, most men—certainly the best men—look forward to a time when they may, in the retirement and quiet of rural life, enjoy the fruits of the toil of years. Why this yearning for rural life? Is it not conceding the fact, that just here are the most and purest pleasures? Will the active business men cease to labor with body and mind when they do attain this great boon? Certainly not! If they do, they are doomed. Perfect abstinence from labor of any kind, is sure death, more or less speedy, to a man of active business habits. Indeed, there is much more real enjoyment in labor, than men who have been reared in indolence and luxury know anything about. Behold the woodsman! see him wield his ax; how obedient his hands to his eye. Watch the plowman directing his intelligent team and turning over the brown furrows, while his mind is calculating the quantity of seed for the field; the probable result; the good this will enable him to do, dwelling with pleasure upon the

fact, that "his lines have fallen unto him in pleasant places, and that he has a goodly heritage." Watch these men at their meals; do they not relish their plain (it may be), but wholesome fare? Who has a better right to have all the best the land produces than the farmer or his family? Everything from field or garden is fresh, pure and unadulterated; his the pure milk, the golden butter, the sweet honey, the ripe fruits in their season and in all their variety—he is in constant and daily communion with nature, and nature's God. Is labor to him a curse? Nay, verily, but rather a blessing!

We well know, and are not willing to ignore the fact, that sometimes labor and toil are wearisome to the flesh; because, for example, in harvest time we may be required, in order to save the crops and secure the benefits arising therefrom, to labor harder than is desirable.—Again, labor may become a passion—one would scarce think so, but we have known men with whom it was so; and the men given to it were degraded by it; because every better consideration had to yield to this one—but we claim these are an exception to the rule. There is a wise middle road, with enough of labor to keep the body healthy, the mind active and the heart right, and we hope that all our readers—especially the young—may be able to find it.

#### Wheat in Madison Co., Illinois.

EDS. RURAL WORLD: You have again and again expressed a wish to receive communications, in regard to agricultural statistics, for the *Rural World*. I therefore take the liberty to send you the following statistics, gathered by the Secretary of the Highland Agricultural Society. They were obtained from 104 farmers, residing in the Eastern part of Madison Co., Illinois, and refer to the number of acres of wheat sown last fall; the time of sowing; the manner of preparing the soil, and the rotation of crops, etc.

These 104 farmers sowed 4674 acres, against 3486 sown in 1867, an increase of 34 per cent. 3326 acres were plowed twice; the depth of plowing ranging between 4 and 9 inches, in the following ratio:

176 acres	were plowed	4 inches	deep
1082 "	"	"	5 "
1668 "	"	"	6 "
748 "	"	"	7 "
570 "	"	"	8 "
430 "	"	"	9 "

The varieties of wheat chosen for seed, were chiefly Tennessee May and Walker wheat—2524 acres of the former, and 1890 of the latter. On about 260 acres other varieties—Tappahannock, etc.—were tried. One-fourth was sown before the 20th of September, and three-fourths between the 26th of September and 14th of October—rains preventing all sowing between the 20th and 26th of Sept. Of these 4674 acres, were sown—On wheat stubble, 2568 acres; on oat stubble, 1632 acres; corn stubble, 302 acres; meadow land and clover, 142 acres; fallow land, 30 acres. The wheat sown—6580 bushels, or about 1½ bushels per acre—was light and thin, only 860 bushels weighing 60 pounds per bushel.

The wheat came up beautifully; made a splendid appearance before winter set in, and looks very promising yet. And now permit me another question: Could you not issue a German edition of your *Rural World*? if it were only once or twice per month. B. E. H.

REMARKS—We could issue a German edition, but fear it would meet the fate of other efforts in that direction—fail for the want of a sufficient number of supporters.

#### THE NEW BARN.

We have submitted F. C.'s remarks, and also a criticism by M. M., in a late number, to Carl, and obtain from him the following additional facts: "The stalls in the North lean-to part were finished with stanchions where the cows were fastened, with a feed rack about 22 inches wide in front. In feeding, the hay was thrown from above directly in front of them; they could not throw out much, but, receiving all they would eat, and not being able to drive each other nor breathe upon the hay and leave it, there was no chance to waste. The little thrown out could not be trod upon and was replaced in the rack, and sometimes salted a little, and generally consumed. After feeding, the cows were let out into the yard and to water, and during this time the stalls were cleaned.

"The barn stood on ground sideling a little to the South, so that it needed a foundation wall of two feet high for the South lean-to. It was at first the intention of the owner to lay a floor on a level with the main floor and that of the cow stables, but the thought occurred that this space below the floor and ground might be utilized; hence, floor was laid on the sleepers on the ground, thus saving two feet of space the entire length of the barn. A side entrance was made in the middle of the barn and the horse stalls finished off on a level with the ground, having just the right inclination, making the stables warmer and feeding from the main floor more convenient. There were several teams on the farm, and each was placed in one double stall, so that horses working together stood together. The partitions were made long enough to keep the horses from quarreling over their feed, and for extra precaution a pole was put up between each pair. A beautiful young stallion was kept in the extreme East end in a separate stall by himself. When the front barn doors were open there was an open space of nearly three feet above the floor. When hauling in hay, the floor between the first and second bents—forming this space, and consisting of four heavy sleepers and odd rails and boards—was moved back against the centre post, so that one could drive into the barn with a good two-horse load of hay. The barn was then filled as tight as possible; and when all the space was full of hay, except that mentioned as being between the first and second bents, the sleepers were then put into position, the odds and ends mentioned put across these, and this last space also filled with hay; the loads being driven up on the outside of barn. One great mistake was made in the building of this (for that time) rather large barn, and that was this: the main posts were two feet too low; valuable

space, holding ten tons of hay, with small additional cost might have been secured by having the posts two feet longer. A building as wide as this, viz., 48 feet, would be in good proportion with centre post eighteen feet high. Cloverdale, Ill., Jan. 20. CARL."

[Written for Colman's Rural World.]

#### FARMERS' CLUBS.

I think, Mr. Editor, I have read something at different times in your valuable paper, in relation to farmers' clubs; but I do not believe that an article on this important subject every week, would be out of place. Very few who have not experienced their benefits, are aware how much knowledge can be gained from their successful operation. Farmers, as a general thing, are not much accustomed to mixing in public affairs; and the mere thoughts of being called upon to make a speech, is perfectly appalling, and not one out of five can muster enough courage to rise up in an assemblage of his nearest neighbors and say, "Mr. Chairman." Yet those same men, if they accidentally meet at the blacksmith-shop, the mill, or at most any other place except a club, can talk as fluently and eloquently as a lawyer. For this reason, the club should be so conducted that every member would feel at home, and not think that he was addressing the House of Lords, or some such august assemblage. It should be a place for familiar conversation, and not for set speeches; and, in a short time this diffidence would wear away. If there were any who were capable, and felt so disposed, they might be encouraged to prepare an address on some particular subject, or upon any which they might select; and that subject might be made the matter of conversation for that meeting, if thought proper. Committees should be appointed to report upon the best manner of cultivating certain crops; upon the care, management and breeding of stock; upon marketing the products of the farm, and various other subjects which would readily suggest themselves to the members; and these reports also commented upon, and adopted, amended, or rejected. The farmers, themselves, would be surprised at the amount of information which might thus be obtained, and often amused by the novel manner of its delivery.

I am well aware, from experience, of the difficulty of getting such clubs properly organized and in working order, and how hard it is to get farmers interested enough to attend; but, when once in successful operation, the blessings which they bestow upon a community, are almost beyond computation. It requires a few wide-awake, energetic men, to take the first steps in their formation, and afterwards to lay out their work and direct the deliberations. A sufficient number of such can be found in almost every neighborhood—and how much good they might do if they would only commence at once! These long winter evenings should not be trifled away, and such organizations should be as common as school houses; and school houses twice as plenty as at present. K. W. G.

Snow Hill, Jan. 4th, 1869.

Feb. 2—Raining at St. Louis.

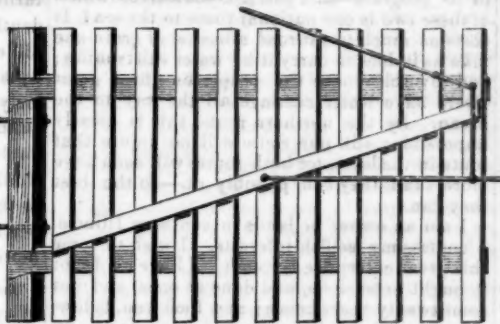


## A CHEAP FARM GATE.

EDS. RURAL WORLD: I send you a plan of a cheap farm gate. It can be made any size desired—the lighter the gate, the lighter the material. I give a plan for a 10 feet gate. A gate on this plan can be made for \$1 in material; or by planing and painting, \$10 can be expended on it. A saw, chisel, hatchet and nails—are all that are needed in its construction.

Take a piece of timber 3x4 inches and 4½ feet long for a head piece—or, more properly speaking, a hinge piece. Cut an open dove-tail mortise 8 inches from each end. Fit in arms made of 1in.x3in. oak, or 2x3 poplar, 10 feet long. These arms must be set in level with the head piece, having a half inch shoulder. Nail, spike or bolt fast, and your gate frame is ready for the slats or paling.

The slats are 4½ feet long (same as the head piece) and from 3 to 6 inches wide (3 inch slats make a better appearance). Nail on the arms as shown, 3 inches apart, more or less. Take a strip 3 inches wide and 1 inch thick for a brace. Nail with burnt or wrought nails to each slat—rivet or clinch each nail. The latch and raiser can be omitted if desired. I usually substitute a few links of an old chain. A mischief-



ous horse can unhook or unlatch a gate—but I defy them to unchain one. I believe that the out-end of a gate should be as light as possible.

Material for such a gate can often be had when plank cannot be. A piece of a rail will do for the hinge piece. The arms can also be made of rails; and the slats can be split out of rails, if no better material offers. The slats may be put on square, or picket fashion, to suit fancy or convenience. Gates made as described are much better, and last longer than when made with head pieces and bars. I speak from experience. F. L., *Freedom's Home, Ky.*

[REMARKS.—Our engraver failed in the cut, in not letting the main brace extend to the post—which will be readily perceived.

## Hedging—Fruit Trees—Inquiries.

EDS. RURAL WORLD: I have a lot of timber land which I wish to inclose with a fence, and set a hedge-row this coming spring. Will the hedge plants grow and do as well in such land, without previous cultivation as with it?—or is it necessary to first cultivate the ground a year before setting out the plants in the row? I am very anxious to set the plants this coming spring, and am almost persuaded to believe that the Osage plants will do perfectly well in such ground, where the trees grow naturally and there is no turf to rot, without giving the ground any further preparation than such as I can give it in a few weeks in the spring—such as clearing the ground well of shrubs and trees, and transplanting carefully, &c. Let us hear from those who have had experience.

I have about 40 acres, which I wish to plant with fruit trees. It is timber land with a light growth of scrubby oak and hickory bushes—some large Black Jack trees on most of it, and but little good timber on any of it. How will it do to clear the land, dig the holes and set the trees, this coming spring and cultivate afterwards? Most of my neighbors tell me to clear and break the land, and cultivate it in some crop a year or two before setting out my trees. If I can get my trees in this spring, and have them do as well as though I waited longer, I would like to know it. Perhaps some of your correspondents can inform me through the columns of the *Rural World*. B., *Leesville, Mo.*

FROM WESTCHESTER, PA.—W. T. Painter writes us as follows: "I finished killing, about two hours since, a lot of pork (the most of it in this section being sold to sausage makers.) There being a lively discussion about the weight of one, I concluded to weigh him. Weight, 793 lbs., 15 months old. Pork with us is now worth \$15.50 to \$16.00 per hundred."

OHIO STATE FAIR.—The Ohio State Board of Agriculture has appointed the next State Fair to be held at Toledo, the 13th to 17th September inclusive. The Board will meet on the 10th of March, to revise the premium list, &c.

[Written for Colman's Rural World.]

## Henry and Johnson Counties, Mo.

The winter so far with us, has been variable. December gave us a snow of ten inches, with a temperature as low as 15° below zero on the morning of the 12th. January so far has been rain, sunshine, freezing and thawing, alternate—severe on the late sowing of winter wheat. The early sowing with drill looks well, and at this date promises fair—a large breadth sown in these counties. Immigration into this part of the State has been large during the autumn months, and still we hear of others coming. There yet is room. Choice prairie lands from \$8 to \$15 per acre, according to quality and locality. Improved farms rate from \$20 to \$30 per acre.

The Tebo and Neosho railroad is now mostly graded from Sedalia to Clinton, Henry Co., and gives encouraging prospects of being in running order by next fall.

South part of Johnson and North of Henry counties are noted for extensive coal mines and a superior soil for grasses and winter wheat, also for fruits of all kinds grown in a temperate climate. This region offers great inducements to the emigrant and the capitalist for investment. BUCKEYE.

Windsor, Henry Co., Mo., Jan. 15th, 1869.

WEATHER IN JACKSON CO., MO.—We have had a remarkably mild and open winter so far, excepting a few days in December. I think it was on the 10th or 11th that the thermometer stood 14 degrees below zero, which proved fatal to peaches and apricots. Grapes, pears, cherries, and small fruit generally, are all right yet. I think we will have an abundance of fruit if this weather continues. GEO. A. HORNUNG.

January 22,

## Kansas Agricultural College.

This institution is located at Manhattan on the Pacific railroad, E. D., about one hundred miles West of the Missouri State line. It has been in operation as a State agricultural college for only one year, and has only one professor of agriculture at present, but has a full corps of scientific professors in the regular collegiate departments. Rev. J. Dennison is President. The college has received the 90,000 acres of land under the Congressional grant, belonging to the State. This has been wisely located, and is of the best quality of land in Kansas, and is now selling at very good figures. Thirty thousand dollars' worth have been disposed of during the year. Isaac Goodenough, Esq., of Manhattan, is agent. There are eighty acres originally belonging to the college, now enclosed with a good stone fence. The college building is a three-story stone structure, substantially built, with sufficient accommodations for the present wants; we have seen enough, however, of the spirit of the leading men of the college, and of the farmers and fruit growers of Kansas, to predict that, ere long, a better, larger and more beautiful edifice, will be erected. The surroundings are as yet primitive, but we have the promise—and record it here as against the classes of 1869—that, during this coming spring, at least one tree shall be planted and cared for, by (or for) each student attending, which will make the number 123. Of course the Professors will add at least two for each of themselves; and then we suggest that the classes, as such, have each a tree, or group; and no doubt Kansas Agricultural College, or its surroundings at least, will be much improved by this tree planting.

It was the privilege of the writer to be present three days during the first Agricultural Institute ever held under the auspices of this Institution. Essays and lectures upon the leading topics of Agriculture and Horticulture were read, followed by discussions upon the subject under consideration. All the Professors (except the Professor of Agriculture, who was unavoidably absent,) we believe, lectured at least once during the Institute. Prominent among those invited from abroad, were Capt. Anthony, of the *Kansas Farmer*, Prof. Kelsey, of Ottawa, and Prof. H. Norton, of Emporia. Our space forbids to give the proceedings in detail, but we trust much good seed has been sown, which will spring up, and, having a good and fertile natural soil, will be assiduously cultivated, to yield, in after life, the beautiful fruits of industry, contentment, benevolence and peace, and, in the world to come, life everlasting.

JOHNSON CO., MO.—Mr. N. J. Colman—Seeing many little notes on the weather and crops, and the prospect for peaches, I will say that I do not think peaches are all killed in this section of country; but most of the buds examined are killed—enough left for a moderate crop. It has been very wet. Wheat looks very well—I think little damage has been done by the spewing of the ground. The time has not yet come when freezing and thawing will tell like the severe weather of Feb. and March. There is a very large breadth of wheat sown in this county. J. S. P., *Holden, Mo. Jan. 26.*

## A NEW ROUTE TO THE OCEAN.

BY PROF. J. B. TURNER.

[Concluded from our last.]

Open this great natural highway of nations, and whenever or wherever the people of southern Illinois desire a new railroad running south or east, toward the Mississippi or the Ohio, or the Wabash, it can be got, and the rolling stock at once put upon it—simply because it will be in the route of this great grain trade to the east, and it will, in due time, make southern Illinois what northern Illinois and northern New York now is—the great thoroughfare for the grain trade of a continent.

But this is not all. San Diego is, in sailor's measure, a thousand miles nearer to Canton, the great centre of Chinese commerce, than San Francisco is.

Open this new water course to the ocean through Virginia, and the whole of the Asiatic trade and travel through San Diego, (a harbor practically as good as that of San Francisco), by the proposed railroad through Santa Fe to St. Louis, would strike navigable waters in the east several hundred miles sooner than it would strike it at the north, on a route and through a climate far more available for that trade than the northern route now being built. Hence, with this canal and railroad open through Virginia, if either of the railroads to San Blas or to San Diego are built, as now proposed in congress, the whole, or at least a due share, of that immense Asiatic trade and travel would flow through St. Louis and southern Illinois, and out at Norfolk, instead of through Chicago and northern Illinois, and out at New York.

With these resources of trade and travel diverted to our borders, it scarce admits of a doubt that soon the capital of the nation would gravitate by its own weight to St. Louis, and St. Louis become in due time what the God of Nature evidently designed it should be—one of the largest and richest cities in the world.

Thus, by this one simple and single move in the right direction, we of southern Illinois can secure to ourselves all that any reasonable people can ask—rolling stock and business for all the railroads we need running to the south or southwest, toward or along this great route of the grain trade. A new thoroughfare for the richest commerce of the world—the commerce that has made London and the cities of England and Holland what they are—a great city and a great market for all our home products, built up at our doors. Iron, coal, salt, and lumber of all sorts from Virginia mines and forests cheaper than from any foreign State—an open market through these new railroads to the south-east, for all the fruits, timber, etc., of our southern counties of Illinois, as well as an ever open and free market for all our grains and products, the moment we touch the Ohio, or the Mississippi, or the Wabash. In a single word, southern Illinois, by this single move, throws herself into line with the grain trade of the continent and the commerce of the world, even more effectively than northern New York did when she dug the Erie canal.

Does any sensible man doubt that such a move would ultimately double the value of every acre of land in southern Illinois, as well as the net profits of every bushel of wheat or grain we raise? What shall we do then? Merely wrangle over the mode of the payment of a debt not due yet for twenty years to come, or, like sensible men, look well to our own resources and advantages, and prepare to pay all our debts alike, both public and private. I propose the latter.

Look at this proposed route, open alike to all men, and for almost the whole year, through all the way both by water and by rail, with only one reshipment, by a distance not half as great, and compare it with the Chicago route, round almost by the north pole, and blockaded by ice and reshipments, and water-falls, and combina-

tions, and monopolies, through almost every step of its progress—and just ask yourselves which of these two is our national route to the sea? It costs as much to railroad a bushel of grain one mile as it does to carry it by water thirty miles; and by this route the people on these great rivers have water carriage all the way to the ocean. By the northern route this is clearly impossible; still our route will not injure that route in the least, for both routes will soon have more than they can possibly do—do the best they can.

I am an owner of lands in southern Illinois. I confess my selfish interests. I wish to force this great enterprise through. I have no doubt it ought to be done, and done at once, and not some twenty years hence; and I ask you, fellow-citizens, without distinction of party, to co-operate with me in this enterprise, so vital to all our best pecuniary interests, whether you do in anything else or not.

I would respectfully urge all intelligent men in southern Illinois to take their maps, and carefully examine into the relations of these facts, to all their own best interests, which are also only the best interests of the whole west, of the nation, and of the world. Southern Illinois needs several new railroads at once; but a railroad to be good for anything must have active rolling stock, business, and an end and an aim. A railroad that begins nowhere and ends nowhere, and aims at nothing in particular, is of very little value. Open this route to the sea, and you, at one blow, give direction, aim and scope, and power, to each and all the railroads in southern Illinois we now propose to build, and, ere long, to twice as many more. Capitalists will see their prospective necessity and profits, and will supply the desired capital and rolling stock. Farmers will see what they have never seen—southern Illinois thrown into its true relations with the wealth and commerce of the west and the world. Shall we do it?

[Written for Colman's Rural World.]

### FORTY ACRES ENOUGH.

We know of no better location in the whole country for wholesale gardening operations, than Alton: On the line of the St. Louis, Alton and Chicago railroad, we are able to choose between the three great cities of the West, where we will sell our produce.

Chicago is generally the most favorable market. Shipments made in the evening, are in Chicago early next morning, where we get a big, round price, for everything early—five dollars per dozen for melons; nine dollars a bushel for tomatoes; four dollars per bushel for turnips, and five dollars per bushel for green apples. These are actual prices received by us last season.

One hundred and twenty-five acres of our farm is high bottom land, very rich, one and a half miles from Alton City limits. On this farm, potatoes grew, last season, without manure, three hundred bushels to the acre.

Now, to come to the point: Our farm is too large—more than we can properly cultivate; and we will sell to the first applicant, forty acres (enough) at the very low price of \$3,000—half cash; balance in three years.

To show our faith in this land, and confidence as to what it will do, we submit a programme in part of what we propose to plant this spring—(there is already upon it a bearing vineyard and hop yard) 10,000 apple grafts; 10,000 early cabbage; 20,000 grape cuttings; 12 acres potatoes; 3 acres sweet potatoes; 3 acres Alton Large Nutmeg melon; 2 acres

Tilden tomato; 1 acre early beets; 1 acre early turnips. From this plat of 25 acres, we confidently expect to realize a sum sufficient to pay all expenses and leave a balance, net profit, equal to the whole cost of the above named forty acres. It can be done easily with proper culture. If any party proposing to purchase doubts this, we will make this contract: He shall pay for the forty acres, a sum, only equal to the net proceeds of our twenty-five acres, as per account sales and invoice next fall, be it more or less than three thousand dollars.

Now, "what man has done, man can do." Why may not any person, with a little capital and a great deal of attention to his business, with an offer like this, and in such a location, possess himself at once, of a farm that will speedily bring him independence, if not a fortune? How many young men are now looking to the city, who, twenty years hence, will regret that they had not looked to the country? How many elderly gentlemen, are to-day graduating from law, medicine and the forum, to the farm! Is it not a significant fact, that, while young men hate the farm, old men love it? But, "the simple pass on and are punished."

Whatever of personal interest we may have had in writing this article, we have yet unbounded faith in the statements made, and conclusions arrived at; and should the "right man" for the "right place" pass this way, we shall be pleased to demonstrate the facts, and show our faith by our works. O. L. BARLER.

Upper Alton, Ill.

## The Dairy.

### Can Good Milk Come of Diseased Animals.

At the recent National Cattle Disease Convention at Springfield, Ill., quite contradictory statements were made in regard to the healthfulness of milk from cattle laboring under the Texas cattle disease. Thus Dr. Glendinin, of Ohio, in relating his experience, said that the milk of a diseased cow was fed by mistake one morning to two cats and in three days both died, and upon examination they showed all the symptoms of the diseased cows.

Mr. Poole, of Indiana, related the fact that a lady in his town had eaten cream from the milk of a cow sick with the disease, and it made her very ill, though she did not die.

Mr. Eaton, upon whose farm there had been 600 native and 4,600 Texan cattle, said that the percentage of deaths increased in accordance to the age of the cattle, but that he knew of no calves dying of the disease. He had used the milk from diseased cows and felt no bad effects from it.

Mr. Rauch, of Chicago, also said that he had learned of no bad effects from the use of milk of the diseased cows. We shall not attempt to reconcile statements so contradictory, but if we had a cart-load of testimony going to prove that the milk, of a cow diseased and dying of Texas fever, was healthy, we should be loth to believe in a theory so different from our experience with animals suffering under other diseases. We do not confess to any particular delicacy of stomach, but the milk of diseased cattle is not to our taste. We have seen something of its effect on dogs, pigs, and calves, and although we have had no experience with Texas cattle plague, it is difficult to conceive why that disease should be an exception to the general rule in milk secretions.



## Horse Department.

### Large Thorough-Bred Horses.

[Concluded from our last.]

Every experiment made has proven the blood horse far superior to all other breeds for all purposes, save the pulling of a huge load through a deep and miry mud hole. Their powers of endurance are superior, and their elasticity of movement well fits them for both riding and driving. The army service, also, proved them the best of all breeds for long marches and constant fatigue. When handled properly, they learn to do as their master bids much more readily and willingly than the common breeds; but, when ill used and badly managed by ignorant trainers, they are sometimes so spoiled as to be of little value to ride or work.

It is to be regretted, that the racing men have not always kept prominently in view, when breeding for the turf, the rearing also of a larger breed of horses than some of the thorough-breds are—especially of late years has almost every other quality been neglected for the racing quality alone.

Lexington, the most noted of all the racers we have any account of, has damaged the blood stock of this country more than can be remedied in the next twenty years. The finest racer the world ever saw; but, instead of being regarded with admiration, should be looked on with pity; for no defect is so serious in a horse as that of blindness—a horse without eyes is worse than no horse at all. I can never look upon this wonderful racer without charging nature with cruelty in refusing to this otherwise perfect horse so great and essential a gift as a bright eye. Few will forget his appearance here some years ago. Memory will ever paint the picture of Lexington at the St. Louis fair. Excited by the noise and hum of the crowd on that day; the white foam streaming from every pore in his body and his sinewy form trembling at the tramp of hoofs around; at times almost motionless, with head lifted high and ears pricked, vainly striving to get sight of scenes which thought and feeling told had come again; the wild glow of his poor blind eyes, telling that, to him, all was a world of night—yet, when the tread of other steeds was nigh, and the music and drum pealed from the Pagoda above, he bounded forward, dragging the grooms by the rein, as if the time had come once more to repeat the feat the world owned was possible to none but him. Jo. Boswell said, when the news came that Alexander had bought Lexington from Tenbroeck and designed putting him in the stud, that Lexington would ruin the blood horses of this country. He knew his superior racing qualities would gain the patronage of the best mares in the land, and that blindness would as surely pass to his colts as his running qualities—for both were natural to the horse. The story of that "big feed" and the trial run immediately afterward, may be true; but as to its being the cause of Lexington's blindness, every one, acquainted with the colt, knows it is false. I have been astonished at those claiming to be good authority, asserting that Lexington was made blind by exercising

him one time on a full stomach. The eyes of this horse were very bad when a colt. They were pale and milky long before the big feed, and his colts have inherited, many of them, the eye-sore from their sire. Not one in twenty have a clear, bright eye, like Planet, Bonnie Scotland, Leamington or Knight of St. George.

I have often wished that the Government would appropriate a million of dollars to be given in prizes for the fleetest horses, who were descendants of an entirely sound ancestry. I think it would be the means of improving our horse stock, in a few years, in a way that we would soon be ahead of the whole world in fine horses. No stock in the world can ever compete, on the farm, with the full-sized English blood horses. They are handy and clear footed; they move briskly; endure the greatest amount of travel; go always without the whip, and are better for the saddle than all the bandy-legged pacers that can be paraded.

GOSSIPER.

## The Apiary.

[Written for Colman's Rural World.]

### BEES DYING.

I see, in the *Rural World* of Jan. 16, some enquiries by "Bee," of Rockport, which, with your permission, I will try and answer:

The trouble of which he complains among the bees last summer, was very general—so poor a season was never known. The late spring, the wet June, and the extreme heat which followed—combined with the early frost, to make a state of things which has never existed before; and we trust may never occur again. I am in receipt of letters from many bee keepers who did not save a single swarm; many of them perishing in the new hive before they made an inch of new comb. "Bee" says, that old stocks died in his vicinity in early winter, leaving honey in the hive, and enquires "if it is possible that they obtained poisonous honey from some source?" I think not; but account for the loss thus: Owing to the scarcity of honey through the season, very few young bees were reared. I have never seen so little brood in hives as was found in August. As a consequence, colonies were generally very weak in numbers, even when they had some honey in store. In goodly numbers, bees find their safety when winter comes. A small cluster cannot generate sufficient heat, and when severe days come, they suffer from cold. When cold, bees cannot retain their fecal matter as they do usually in winter, and instinct prompts them to leave the hive to void it; many in doing this are chilled and do not return, and soon the bees are all gone—the owner cannot tell where or why. Bees dying thus, have all the symptoms of dysentery—but cold is the cause. Bees, if weak in numbers, must be wintered in some place above the freezing point to be safe. Good, strong colonies, are the only ones that are safe out of doors, and there is great economy of honey in wintering these in a cellar or house.

The best substitute for honey, I find to be a syrup, made by dissolving four pounds of sugar (white is best) in one quart of water, and boiling it to the consistency of honey: I feed it to the bees by means of a simple, cheap bee-feeder, patented by Edward Harrison. Its advantages are, that the food can be placed in it among the cluster of bees, so that they can reach it in all weathers, and yet no robbers can find it. Of course it will pay to feed bees at any time of year, rather than allow them to starve. A few pounds of sugar fed to a colony now, may make of it a valuable, profitable stand next summer. I find it possible, and easy, in ordinary years, to keep bees without any feeding; but, in extraordinary seasons, we must do the best we can. It is not strange that a feeling of discouragement prevails among bee-keepers at present,

but I think we shall see good times next season.

A year of disaster, very similar to the past, occurred once in Germany, and was followed by several of the best seasons ever known.—We do not give up our strawberry vines, or cut down our orchards, because fruit falls us for a season:—let us take care of the bees that remain, and try all improved methods of bee-culture, assured that, while flowers and forest trees bloom, there will, in most seasons, be abundant honey.

"Bee" will find either Langstroth's or Quinby's large works on bee-keeping, interesting and profitable; but, if he sends forty cents to Allen Tupper, Brighton, Iowa, he will receive the *Bee Keeper's Text Book*, which really contains most that is worth knowing about management of bees.

## Answers to Correspondents.

EDS. RURAL WORLD: Do you know anything of the merits of the Barberry as a hedge plant? Does it make as good a hedge as Osage Orange? The objection to the latter is, it grows too tall, and requires too much trimming, and is very liable in this climate to be killed out, making ugly breaches in the hedge. Macon, Mo., S. P.

ANSWER—We have no personal experience with the Barberry as a hedge plant. If any of our subscribers have, we shall be glad to publish their experience.

MR. N. J. COLMAN: I have a valuable horse that has flat feet. Shell brittle—does not hold a shoe well; deficiency of horns, exposing the frog and causing lameness. Is there any cure? A SUBSCRIBER.

POULTRY WANTED.—I wish to know if you can inform me where I can get Poland fowls, black or white. I believe all of the Poland variety are the crested fowl. Am very desirous of obtaining a pair. H. C. BUCHANAN, Marion Co., Mo.

ANSWER—We are unable to inform Mr. B. If he will keep watch of our advertising columns, he will probably find them advertised at no distant day.

MR. N. J. COLMAN: Enclosed please find specimen of eggs of an insect found on a grape vine. Please inform me what they are. E. P. BOWWELL.

ANSWER—The eggs are those of the Oblong Leaf-winged Catydid. The insect does not do any material damage.

W. JACKSON.—For early, we prefer "Keyes." For market, Large Red or Yellow. Tilden does well in many places. As to your other queries we have prepared an article which appears in this week's issue.

T. J. J.—The best time to sow clover is, from this to the 15th of March, on a light sugar snow.

F. TRABUE.—Plaster can be obtained from Chicago—it is prepared in Michigan. If applied to wheat, it is sown with a broad-cast seeder or by hand; if to corn, it is put in, or rather around, the hill after the corn appears above ground. A bushel of salt by weight. We do not know of any earth from barren spots on prairies ever being analyzed—there may have been for ought we know.

SUBSCRIBER.—If you will make a solution of an ounce of copperas, one half pound of soft soap and two quarts of urine, and apply it with a syringe or a swab three times a day, we think the wound will heal. If it does not, address Dr. Detmers, V.S., Quincy, Ill. Give your heifer liberal, but not over feed; occasionally a bran mash and some roots, such as beets, carrots, turnips and potatoes, and all the good hay she will eat. Plum trees are grafted early in spring near the collar.

THOS. M.—Ropes are not included with the Hay Pitcher—only a full set of pulleys. You can pitch the hay just as high as you have a mind to. We will deliver the Pitcher on the road free—you pay charges over the road.



## HORTICULTURAL.

[Written for Colman's Rural World.]

### The Black Cap Raspberry and Its Varieties.

There appears to be some confusion in the various Black Caps in cultivation. The Miami and McCormick are advertised under different names and descriptions. We have been engaged for a number of years in the growing of Black Cap Raspberries; and that experience has fully demonstrated to the writer that the Doolittle, Miami, McCormick, or Big Miami, are all the same variety—wild plants taken from the woods, cultivated, and by cultivation improved. The difference in size, quality, productiveness and time of ripening, has occurred from *locality*, soil and climate.

The attempt is being made to confound the Mammoth Cluster with the Miami; this cannot be successfully done; for this new variety is evidently a distinct seedling of the Black Cap family. Its leaf, cane, fruit and all its characteristics, show plainly that it is not a Miami; but may be a seedling of the same.

Davidson's Thornless is another seedling that has wandered so far from the parent, as to have few thorns; yet, in every other particular, a true Black Cap.

Surprise Black Cap is a chance seedling, found some years ago in this State; partaking of the general character of the parent, yet of different foliage and wood from our wildlings here, or at the East. We consider it a very superior berry to Doolittle or Miami in quality.

The Seneca Black Cap has a parentage known and described by its introducer. It is a good berry and will succeed at the West. The foliage, fruit and wood is distinct from the Doolittle. The canes do not grow as large, are much more densely covered with thorns, and the plant hardier here—the leaves remain on the plant late into freezing weather.

The Robert's Black Cap, is a form of the native, found west of here a few years ago. Canes of a bright, purple color, leaf large, and withstands the sun admirably; fruit reddish black—very firm—not as large as Miami, yet possessing the best wild raspberry flavor of any we ever tasted. It is entirely hardy and annually bears large crops of fruit, which the birds see fit to gobble up first, leaving all others until its fruit is gone.

We are pleased to see this interest taken in the Black Caps, for they are a variety that will stand by us as a market fruit; not as showy—not as saleable as the red and yellow—but always bearing a crop of fruit; bearing transportation well and selling at remunerative prices.

CONCORD.

### Budding—Some Facts Not Generally Known.

MR. EDITOR: It may seem a little out of season to talk about budding now, but this is a season of comparative leisure with most horticulturists, and it is therefore a good time to bring new facts before them for their consideration and adoption, if found worthy. I will therefore have something to say about budding, and present some facts not now generally known:

About the manner of performing the operation I shall have nothing to say, as that is to be found in every fruit book, and is repeated in our agricultural papers times without number. It is true there is a way that is more expeditious and better than that generally practiced, but it would be impossible to clearly teach it without ocular demonstration.

What I wish to bring up is, the time at which the operation should be performed. It is well known to nurserymen, that very frequently they have very serious failures with their peach buds and also with the cherry, for which they cannot account, as the buds had taken well; and when heading them off early in the spring, they appeared all right; but when the time comes for the bud to push, it simply falls off, and suckers without number start instead.—Now, I think that such budding has been done too early in the season, and the bud has been thrown off by the growth of the tree after the bud was inserted.

To make the thing plain, I would call the reader's attention to the following facts: The peach stocks that we bud on, are grown from seed—planted the same year that the budding is done; hence, the tree makes a very rapid growth. Now, when the young peach tree comes up, it has a bud at the axis of every leaf, so that the stem is thickly studded with buds its entire length; at a later period, from these buds grow branches, when such branches are necessary or advantageous; but, as so many branches are never necessary as all these buds would make, nature, finding these buds superfluous, simply pushes them off. And it is plain enough I think, that a bud inserted near the collar of a young and vigorously growing tree would share the same fate as those naturally growing there. The remedy, therefore, is obviously to bud higher up on the stock, or to delay the operation as late in the season as possible. The latter plan is the one I adopt with peach and cherry, with uniform success. The apple, pear, quince and plum, not being such rapid growers, it is not necessary with them, and they can be budded at any time when the bark will separate freely, and mature buds to bud with can be procured. E. A. RIEHL.

CINCINNATI HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—This Society has elected, for 1869, the following officers: *President*, W. P. Anderson; *Recording Secretary*, W. C. Cook; *Corresponding Secretary*, E. Betty; *Treasurer*, Robert Clarke. This Society is one of the oldest horticultural societies in the country, and is now in a flourishing condition. Various business firms in the city aid its exhibitions by offering liberal premiums. Their example might well be imitated by residents of other large cities.

[Written for Colman's Rural World.]

### Jottings From Vernon County, Mo.

My hasty pencil-note, To Nurserymen, demands a little more ink: South-west Missouri has an important interest in the matter. We expect to have rail communication Texas-ward soon. This will open up to us an extensive fruit market. We are anxious to be ready and suited. In the home orchard we will patronize the catalogue here and there and everywhere—but the few hardier kinds, of pears and apples especially, are suitable for rough-and-tumble and railwayment. We would like to have our own opinion about this matter—we will not surrender to Rochester, upon the argument of aromatic, spiced, perfumed, melting—we will stickle for tough also: we have fancy, but we desire to keep it at home. Fancy don't thrive boxed up for the tournament of trade. Is there much pleasure in a pocket as empty as a five-year-old gourd? This is the main-spring of the matter after all.

We believe in "the unities"—in *soil*, *climate* and *peculiarities of vegetation*—and we believe in analogy too. Don't be surprised if these elements in the argument should superinduce our own opinion, as to what suits us best in trees and their fruits.

New York or the West? We vote—West! That is, the nature of things induces us to believe that an apple tree from a Western nursery will serve us better and surer than one from a New York nursery. There is no argument in favor of reversing this proposition in view of better results; and, if this cannot be done, our faith chimes in with analogy in general, and the proposition may be taken as correct, according to the nature of things. How would an iceberg flourish in Cuba?

An apple tree is an apple tree, and so is a chestnut tree a chestnut tree. Do chestnut scions from the bleak, sterile hills of New York, transplanted into our Western soil, ever grow up to be sound, healthy, and fruitful trees? They sigh for home and die young. This is their arborography; it is that of the Heart cherries too, as we Western people have all to lament. They are aliens. They cannot lift up their heads in bloom and fruitfulness. Our climate and soil woo them not—they die in their teens, while, in the East, they reach the oak's age—fruitful ever. We cotton to analogies when we prosper. We argue *ab initio*: we study originals also—Northern seedlings for the North; Western seedlings for the West; thence, we run off into experience, whence health, fruitfulness and longevity, will obtain in orchardry. This is our hypothesis; how rings your experience reader?

We like, in spelling through a catalogue, to come across "Western seedlings;" we can't help our likings; they come naturally, and they call for the nature of things—Brown's love came in this way, and lasted long.

Analogy has already preached a million sermons over defunct Catawba from this text: "Moss grows here, but not Iceland moss"—Hymn: Flora has her local loves.

With experience at the points of our noses, shall we still go astray, and make Rochester's boon our bane? N. M. HARDING.



## TOMATO CULTURE.

A prominent and well-posted gardener gives us the following items, regarding the culture of that universally admired esculent, the tomato. Of course all persons—especially gardeners—desire to have tomatoes early. In order to bring about this result, the plants must be raised in the hot-bed. They should be kept low, by frequent transplanting, and dry also. Our friend lays much stress upon these two points. To raise extra plants, give them plenty of room in the hot-beds; at the last transplanting, twelve inches to the plant is not too much.

Open the sash every pleasant day in April.

When they are to be transplanted into the open ground, have your land in good tilth; run two furrows, one with a small, the other with a large plow, to mark the rows—not nearer than 6x6 feet—6x7 he thinks is better; then put in two or three fork-fuls of stable manure at each crossing; haul on some earth, and put your plants on this. Otherwise, choose the poorest land you have. Before taking the plants from the hot-bed, the earth in the bed should be reduced to a perfect mush, by copious watering; then the plants can be taken up with the least detriment to the roots. Cultivate every day by hoe and cultivator, and in four weeks your crop of fruit will be well set; then quit cultivating altogether and the result will be satisfactory.

## Propagation of the Mistletoe.

COL. COLMAN: I wish to inquire if you, or any of your readers, can inform me how to propagate the *Mistletoe*? I have never noticed anything on the subject, and being a great admirer of those beautiful green clumps, on the leafless branches of trees in winter, I am anxious to try to propagate it in Kansas, believing it will grow here, as I have seen it further north than this. I have supposed it could be propagated either from seed or by inoculation. Let us have some information through the *Rural World*. W. M., Lanesfield, Kan., Jan. 2d.

REMARKS—We have never seen nor heard of the artificial propagation of the mistletoe; yet have no doubt that it can be done. It produces seed freely and we should look to this source for its easiest propagation.

The fruit is a one-seeded berry, pearly or yellowish white, with a gummy viscid pulp.—The Latin name *Viscum*, from which is the word *viscous*, sticky. The glutinous berries yield *bird-time*. Would suggest to insert the berries in a slit in the bark, so as not to cover them; or perhaps glue them, with their own pulp to the surface of the bark, would be better; then protect them from birds or other animals that might carry them off. But this is not from experience. If any of our readers have ever propagated the mistletoe, or seen or heard of its being done, we hope they will tell us how, when and where it was done.

We agree with the writer that it is a beautiful object in winter, hanging suspended in large, round clumps of brightest green; and then in summer, when its beauties are eclipsed, it is hidden from our view, by the foliage of the trees in which it grows; but in winter attracting our attention and challenging our admiration, even further off than the stateliest trees. We confess that, like the Druids of old, we almost venerate the dear old time-honored parasite.

## Missouri State Horticultural Society.

REPORT OF SECRETARY.  
[Concluded.]

The State was admitted into the Union in 1821. Intimately mixed up with the alarming difficulties associated with the organization of the State Government, but little public attention was given to the culture of the soil. Nor was this to be wondered at in a new State, when we remember that no action was taken in recognition of the importance of agriculture by the general government for nearly thirty years more.

A Committee on Agriculture was among the standing committees of the State Legislature—but little was done in its behalf.

The necessities of the cultivators of the soil for seeds, trees, and implements, caused the broad commercial spirit to move, and, by commencing seed stores and nurseries, awakened the people to some knowledge of what was needed and could be obtained to aid their efforts at tillage.

In 1845, Mr. Griffin, of Grundy, from the Committee on Agriculture, reported "An Act to Improve the Breed of Sheep;" and, during the same session, a letter was read in the House of Representatives from M. M. Marmaduke, of Saline, "suggesting certain enactments in relation to sheep and wool-growing."

In 1846, "An Act to Encourage Agriculture" was introduced into the Legislature; and in the same year the St. Louis Horticultural Society was formed.

In 1848, an Act was passed "to incorporate the St. Louis Horticultural Society," and Thos. Allen, Lewis Bissell, Wm. Milburn, Jas. Blake, Wm. Salisbury, Ed. Haren, A. B. Chambers, E. Malinckrodt, F. M. Meline, F. E. Robinson, James Turner, Nicholas Riehl and James Sigerson, were chosen corporators. This Society was formed "for the purpose of encouraging Horticulture and Rural Art and improving Rural Taste." And well did it fill its mission for many years, by monthly meetings, published discussions, and semi-annual exhibitions.

During the same session an Act was passed that illustrates the spirit of the time, entitled "An Act to promote Growing Wine in Gasconade County. A Joint Stock Company was incorporated, by which Hans D. Widersprecher, John Schaeffer, Julius Leopold, Joseph Lissel, Ed. Cramer, Herman Burkhardt, Anthony Miller, Peter Miller, Claus Martins, Franz Baing, Chas. D. Eltsen, Christ. Moller and Mathias Keranter, were named directors, whose duty it was—"To report the condition of growing the grape in their county; the improvements made within the last year in kinds; raising; and management of wines; with the quantity, quality and probable value of the wine they raise; with such other information on the subject of wine raising as they may think useful to the public." Here we have, in these two societies (formed twenty years ago) all that we are so proud of in ours to-day—the general diffusion of knowledge, founded on experience.

During this same session, the Geological Survey of the State was much discussed.

Nor could this expanding public mind continue long without a mouthpiece—so we find that, in 1849, the *VALLEY FARMER* made its appearance with Ephraim Abbot as editor, giving force, consistency and unity to the accumulating power.

In 1850, Mr. Alexander Kayser, of St. Louis, offered the very handsome premium of \$100 for the best wine made in the State. Twenty-seven samples were presented, and the premium awarded Jacob Rummel, of Herman, who thus early made his mark as a wine grower. This was a sample from 160 gallons made by him in 1849.

Mr. James Glasgow, Ed. Haren and Jas. Turner, of St. Louis, and Mr. Suffiger, of Highland, Ill., this season exhibited samples of wine made at their several places in 1847-'8 and '9.

In 1853, Mr. Maupin, of Saline, introduced a bill into the State Legislature, to "incorporate the State Agricultural Society," which was passed, and the following Board of Directors named:

M. M. Marmaduke, Saline, President. Camms Seay, Osage, Vice-President. James L. Minor, Cole, Corresponding Secretary. Jos. L. Stephens, Recording Secretary. John H. Trigg, Cooper, Treasurer. Directors—James S. Rollins, Boone; Nath. Leonard, Cooper; Dabney C. Garth, Randolph; Rowland Hughes, Howard; James C. Henderson, Callaway.

We here stop to notice a man worthy of the gratitude and esteem of every cultivator of the soil in the State—one who has been the untiring advocate of the agricultural interests of our State; who has devoted more time, more labor, from pure love to this cause, than perhaps any other man in the State, and that extending over a long series of years—we refer to James L. Minor, for some years Secretary of State, and now a resident of Pleasant Hill.

In 1855, Monroe, Jackson, Clay and Howard counties—all formed agricultural associations. The jour-

nal of the House, of this year, contains an able report of the State Society's Fair, with the list of premiums, &c. During this session, the St. Louis Agricultural and Mechanical Association was chartered. The powerful influence and successful management of this Association, have done much to call public attention to the soil, and to call the attention of cultivators to their wants and the supply.

In 1857, the attention of Horticulturists was called to the necessity of forming a State Fruit Growers' Society, by the Hon. N. J. Colman, Editor of the "Valley Farmer," which was finally accomplished in 1858, in Jefferson City—Mr. Colman being chosen its first President, and again re-elected to the same position. At the annual meeting, in 1862, in order to give wider scope to the operations of the Society, the name was changed to the "Missouri State Horticultural Society."

During the ten years of the existence of the Society, it has done much to aid in developing the resources of the soil in various channels; its proceedings have been regularly published and extensively read. Its influence has thrilled through every portion of the State—affecting, alike, the surroundings of the mansion of the millionaire, the residence of the professionalist, the home of the farmer and the cottage of the laborer. It has not only been felt by all classes of society, but it has permeated the halls of Legislation—been recognized as worthy the consideration of the State—is aided in its labors by a State Board and instructed by a State Entomologist, and now awaits the crowning glory of the age—a GRAND AGRICULTURAL AND INDUSTRIAL UNIVERSITY.

In this we see the course of development, and comprehend how the rough edges can be smoothed down, and the tardy steps of the descendants of the early settlers quickened by the infusion into our population of an admixture of those who entered life amid scenes and associations calculated to refine and enlighten; and how the blending of these elements of power and refinement, hospitality and frugality, will give the "coming cultivators of the soil" that complete balance, which is the perfection of humanity.

All of which is respectfully submitted,  
Wm. Muir, Secretary.

## Apple Grafts—How to Set Them.

EDS. *RURAL WORLD*: As I am a reader and subscriber of your valuable journal, and have but recently come to this country—but, have fully made up my mind to try to start a little nursery of some forty to fifty thousand root grafts the coming spring—would like to ask some of your numerous correspondents a few questions in regard to the preparation of the ground: 1st. Whether you prefer heavy manuring or not? 2d. As to which is best—deep or shallow plowing? 3d. At what time root grafts should be set? 4th. At what distance apart should be the rows? 5th. Whether you would run a furrow with a plow, in which to set the grafts, or use a line to make the rows straight, and a spade to open the ground—after the manner of setting hedge plants in this country?

If you should consider any, or all the above questions worth answering, you would thereby confer a great favor on one desirous of information.

JAMES CARVER, Nodaway Co., Mo.

## Grease Injurious to Trees.

COL. COLMAN: Having been annoyed somewhat by rabbits, I put a mixture of lard and sulphur on my apple trees—suggested and practiced by a friend. My friend, D. C., of Barry, thinks that grease will hurt the trees—what do you think of it? For fear of that, I had determined to wash the trees with lye early in the spring—turn the grease to soap, and benefit the tree.

Tell us what you have learned by experience; and, in the absence of that, we want your opinion—judging from your knowledge of the "anatomy, physiology and hygiene" of the tree.

Liberty, Mo. S. H.

REMARKS—Apply the soap. Lard is injurious. It closes up the pores of the bark.

## The Vineyard.

### PRUNING THE GRAPE.

Much has been said and written on this important subject, and still there is very great diversity of opinion, as to how it should be done.

We are often asked, What is the best system to adopt? To this we answer that, almost any system is better than none; and there is no system that does not involve variations that must be met by exceptional conditions.

There are several leading objects that must ever be held in view in pruning the grape—first, to keep the vine within proper limits; second, to keep up a uniform supply of new wood; third, get the leaves and fruit uniformly exposed to air and light.

In the details of pruning, some hold that the best fruit is obtained from terminal shoots; others, that we must prune to spurs. Some will prune to train as horizontal limbs; others start a series of short arms to train up like a fan. Some use a single or double bow, and others adopt a mode of twining the vine round the stakes in a *spiral* form. Enquiries have been made as to the effects produced by this "spiral" training, and how far the system is adapted to our native varieties. The object in "bowing" or "twisting" the canes of the vine is, so to arrest the sap by compression as to retard its flow, and thus cause the buds to break evenly on the canes. This is generally attained with the slow-growing, short-jointed varieties; but, with our rampant growers, such as Concord, Taylor, Clinton, &c., the lowest buds being most nearly in a straight line, "break" most strongly, and have a constant tendency to draw away the sap from the other buds, thus reducing the amount of fruit the present year, in the production of heavy canes for the next year, to be again repeated. Only the most persistent attention and careful pinching can check this tendency, and sometimes every attempt to regulate this growth fails.

Another point in this spiral training is, that the leaves are too much crowded on the stakes, and become diseased or die entirely, thus greatly impairing the health of the vine and quality of the fruit. The more uniformly the leaves are exposed to the air and light, and the more evenly the fruit is distributed upon the vine, the more satisfactory are the results.

This tendency in the sap to rush with the greatest force in the most direct line, and earliest from the softest buds, in the form of *water shoots*, must be closely watched and distinctly understood in every system of training; and the more determinedly the sap is impinged in the upper buds, there is the greater disposition to become rampant in the less compressed buds below.

Some take their new wood directly from the ground each season; but, unless the shoots are "stopped," so as to produce strong laterals—as the main buds upon these rampant canes do not develop well—the buds upon the laterals have to be used for fruiting.

Upon these subjects of pruning and training, much of the light of experience and comparison of results is wanted. So much depends on

soil and varieties, that the only sure method to attain a knowledge of the best mode of training is, for each grower to try the several methods, and the results will indicate the best. We think the spiral method at fault.

Theories and pictures on paper, however beautiful, must yield in every instance to practical facts.

[Written for Colman's Rural World.]

### REPLY TO "GRAPE GROWER."

It is asked, "When to cut timber?" The ancient custom, apparently pointed out by nature, is to cut timber when there is no foliage on the trees; but this is only partially correct. The worst time is when the sap is most copiously and rapidly ascending—in May. Then, indeed, the bark may most easily be taken off, and timber thus be saved from the destruction by worms; but it will soon decay on and in the ground. Oak timber, from which the tan-bark was removed in May, is, by farmers, not even thought fit to make rails.

According to my experience, the most proper time to cut timber in order to make it last as long as possible, is July; next best August, then September, and so on. From the winter solstice (from the shortest day) the time for cutting timber is rapidly getting worse, and seems to be worst about the end of May. What makes timber last long is death to the roots; therefore, remove your root sprouts in July and perhaps again in September, and only in rare cases more sprouting will be perceived.

The reversing of stakes or posts will, in my experience, effect no good. The lower end of a stake is always of closer texture and tougher than the top, and will therefore last longer on or in the ground. Let your posts be thoroughly dry before you set them. The decaying process requires moisture, and will not begin before the wood has become wet—while green wood will, in the ground, begin to rot almost immediately. The worst rotting place is just near the surface of the ground. Surround your posts four inches below the surface of the ground and two above with cement of mortar and they will last as long again.

FREDERICK MUENCH.

REMARKS—We have found simple reversion of the timber effect but little if any good in stakes having sapwood; but, changing them end-for-end, each season is excellent. The cement is good but esteemed too laborious. Boiling in coal tar has done very well.

Our attention was called to a Post oak gate-post, one of a pair cut from the same tree.—The one had just been renewed for the third time while the other was sound. "But, I know nothing of the reason," said the farmer; "took no note of anything;" but here is a fact, that the one gate-post is twenty-three years old and the other set new just now for the third time.

### Spiral Training of Grape Vines.

Dr. Hull, of Alton, says:

"The object of spiral binding and twisting the grapevine is to so place the buds that no two shoots emanating from them shall be compelled to compete for light or air.

Set a stake close to the vine. Around this twist and bind spirally the fruit cane, and secure it by tying firmly at the top; if the work has been skillfully done, the young shoots emanating

from the fruit buds may at the time the second pinching is performed, be bent out horizontally so as to fully expose each leaf to the sun. The canes for the next season's crop of fruit are trained to a second stake, set in the row about two feet from the vine. Should the vine be a strong one, then a third stake is to be set on the opposite side of the vine, to which one or two more young canes are to be trained. In pruning the vine, cut away the cane that produced the last crop of fruit; select the best young cane for fruit; cut this for the next season's crop to ten or fifteen buds according to strength; twist and bind to the central stake as before described. Also cut the remaining canes back to one or two buds each, and the young canes from these are to be tied to the outside stakes as before described. The treatment will be the same each succeeding year."

### GRAPE VINES.

Mr. D. M. Reichard, of the St. Joseph Horticultural Association, makes the following report, as to the condition of the following named varieties of grape vines near St. Joseph, one year old in the vineyard, as to respective hardiness through the present winter:

Ives, uninjured.  
Diana, slightly injured.  
Dracut Amber, uninjured.  
Union Village, uninjured.  
Rogers', No. 1, 4, 9, 15 and 19, all uninjured.  
Rogers' No. 22 or Salem, uninjured.  
Anna, uninjured.  
To-Kalon, uninjured.  
Canby's August, uninjured.  
Norton's Virginia, uninjured.  
Hartford Prolific, uninjured.  
Creveling, uninjured.  
Delaware, uninjured.  
Herbmont, made a strong growth but killed to the ground.  
Maxatawny, partially frozen.  
Iona, half the wood killed.  
Isabella, made a poor growth and killed to the ground.  
Hager, uninjured.  
Rebecca, killed to the ground.  
Allen's Hybrid, killed half way.  
Perkins, uninjured.  
Taylor's Bullet, uninjured.  
Martha, green to the tips.  
Concord, uninjured.  
Catawba, uninjured.

### ANSWERS TO CORRESPONDENTS.

MR. COLMAN: I lately moved to a place, and found in the garden five or six Isabella grape vines that look as if they had not been pruned for several years. The old vines are as large as my wrist. Ought the old growth to be cut away entirely? SUBSCRIBER.

ANSWER—We prefer to leave a few active young buds, wherever placed, so as to induce a lively circulation of the sap. Then coil the long, naked old canes, that are supposed to exist, on the ground or in the lower portion of the trellis. This will cause some dormant buds to push. Encourage the lowest of these during the growing season, so as to secure good canes for next year, and then cut off the old wood an inch or two from the canes thus selected.

P. G. asks, What is the best way to tar posts and stakes? We have used tar in the following manner: We got a boiler-plate boiler 2½ feet long, 1 foot wide and 3 deep. This we move about to suit the convenience of the posts, &c. A fire is kindled under the boiler. We use a frame like a high saw-buck, with pins in a rail nailed along the top. Set the post in the boiler, setting the top between the pins. Continue this till the boiler is filled with posts or stakes. When the last is set in, the first is ready to be taken out, having been thus kept boiling in the tar from 5 to 10 minutes. This has given entire satisfaction.



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## EDITOR'S TABLE.

### TAKE NOTICE!

We send to every subscriber twenty-four  
copies of the Improved Alton Nutmeg Melon,  
provided Stamped Envelopes are enclosed to us  
with the address of the party to whom they are  
to be sent, written upon them; and not other-  
wise.

We send the RURAL WORLD Free for one  
year to every person sending us the names of  
Five New Subscribers—not old ones.

### NOTICE.

On account of the great increase in our subscription  
list, which has been as gratifying as unexpected, the  
first number for Volume 22 (Jan. 24, 1899), is en-  
tirely exhausted. We endeavored to provide an  
abundant supply of numbers for any ordinary increase  
of our subscription list; but we find we were many  
thousand numbers short, and we have been com-  
pelled to add to our edition from week to week—and if  
this wonderful increase of new subscribers continues,  
there is no telling where we shall stop.

THE WEEKLY TRIBUNE, of Jefferson City, Mo.,  
has now a regular agricultural editor—John T.  
Wielandy, Esq.—who seems calculated to give  
additional interest to the *Tribune*. His remarks  
on the rotation of crops, the use of clover as  
manure, &c., and also in reference to the neg-  
lect on the part of farmers to inform themselves  
by agricultural reading—are orthodox, and we  
doubt not his advice will prove salutary. His  
supposition as to the identity of peach root  
fungus and the *Yellows*, however, is incorrect.  
Dr. Hull would never use the term fungus,  
where he could employ the more specific term,  
*Yellows*.

L. A. Waters, of New Madrid County, Mo.,  
will accept our thanks for some melon seeds,  
which he describes as follows in a private note:  
"Watermelon—large, long; white seed;  
brought from Alabama. The seed enclosed are  
from a 40 pounder. The rind is thin; red, or  
rather purple, flesh; brittle; the finest water-  
melon I ever tasted.

The nutmegs come early, and are remarkably  
fine flavored. No name for them that I know  
of. Try them."

Dr. Geo. Haskell writes from Ancora, Cam-  
den county, New Jersey, that they have a very  
mild winter. Up to 25th January, only two  
inches of snow, and on that day the thermom-  
eter registered 40° above. The coldest morn-  
ing during winter registered 12° above. New  
Jersey farmers are plowing almost any time dur-  
ing the whole of winter.

MANUAL OF FIG CULTURE in the Northern and  
Middle States. By James T. Worthington, of  
Chillicothe, Ohio. Price 25 cents.

We have read this little manual with much  
pleasure. Having experimented for some eight  
years with the fig with but little success, we are  
glad to notice it has been a success in the hands  
of Mr. Worthington.

We protected during the winter with cloth,  
straw, flour barrels, boxes, &c.—but the plants  
always came out in the spring in bad condition.

Mr. W. simply covers with earth. The de-  
tails he gives are clear, concise and practical;  
and, with his management, we see no reason to  
doubt that the Fig can be raised in our climate.

THOMAS AFFLECK, a well and favorably known  
agricultural correspondent of our oldest and  
best journals—is dead. A great loss to the  
community in which he lived. He died of con-  
gestion. He formerly lived in Mississippi, but  
lately at Brenham, Texas.

ICE ON TREES IN NEW YORK.—We hear from  
Newburgh, that a terrible sleet and ice storm  
prevailed in that section, and so loaded the  
trees that very many were bent down to the  
ground and numbers were broken entirely to  
pieces. When the sun came out, the scene was  
dazzling and brilliant beyond description.

At the annual meeting of the stockholders of  
the People's Agricultural and Mechanical As-  
sociation recently held at Montgomery City, Mo., the  
following officers were elected:

President—Henry Clark.  
Vice President—E. B. Overstreet.  
Secretary—B. S. Barnes.  
Treasurer—J. W. Ham.  
Board of Directors—Jas. M. Owings, G. C.  
Lee, R. J. McCormack, Jas. S. Flood, O. L.  
Cross, E. B. Overstreet, Henry Clark, David  
Bruner, J. H. Gordon.

The affairs of the association are in a most  
prosperous condition, some new stock selling at  
par on the day of election.

KANSAS STATE AGRICULTURAL SOCIETY.—The  
Annual Meeting was held at Topeka, in the  
Hall of Representatives, Jan. 15th; Hon. Robt.  
Furness, presiding.

This Society now receives from the State \$300.  
A resolution was passed that the Legislature be  
petitioned to grant \$1000 per annum instead;  
also, that 15 cents per annum, for each voter  
in the county, be paid in aid of County Agricul-  
tural Societies who shall hold an annual fair.  
The finance exhibit shows receipts of the State  
Society, from all sources, for 1898, to have been  
\$812. Disbursements for current expenses, pre-  
miums, and diplomas, \$789.25. Balance on  
hand, \$72.75.

FRUIT IN EGYPT.—G. E. Walker, Esq., of  
South Pass, Ill., called on us last week, and we  
are exceedingly gratified to learn that the  
peach buds in Egypt are uninjured, and that  
the prospects for an abundant crop were never  
more promising. We do most sincerely hope  
that the fruit region of Illinois, and Missouri  
also, will have the best crop ever yet raised,  
and obtain for the same the highest prices—if  
we could put in a proviso so that our own sup-  
plies might come at reasonable prices at least.  
Who will send the first strawberries to St.  
Louis the coming season?—we look for them  
early.

### WANTED.

A Practical Vineyardist, one that has had  
experience in pruning and training the Concord  
and other American varieties of grapes. To  
such a person—either married or single—who  
can come well recommended, I will give good  
wages. Vineyard situated on the I. M. R. R.  
within 30 miles of St. Louis. Norman J.  
Colman, St. Louis, Mo.

WHEAT.—A subscriber at Independence, Mo.  
writes: "Wheat in this section looks well al-  
though sown late. Farmers were in fear of a  
second visit from the grasshoppers, consequent-  
ly the winter grain was all sown late. Our  
peaches are not all killed—about 10 per cent.  
are alive."

[Crop items will always be welcome. Send  
them along.—Eds.]

NORTHERN ILL. HORTICULTURAL SOCIETY.—  
The second annual meeting of this society will  
be held at Aurora, on the 16th, 17th and 18th  
of February. The meeting at Freeport last  
winter was one of the best ever held in the  
State. The prospective one promises to be as  
good, or better. The Ch., B. and Quincy road  
carries at half fare.

### Western Mutual Life Insurance Co.

It is with satisfaction that we call the attention of  
our readers to the advertisement of the above Com-  
pany. The time was, when life assurance was but  
little appreciated. That day is past; there are but  
few business men but who carry upon their lives,  
from five to one hundred thousand dollars: in fact,  
all classes of people, both the rich and the poor, the  
merchant, the mechanic, the farmer and laborer—  
are beginning to appreciate its benefits. Philanthro-  
pists, throughout the country, seek this channel as  
the best means of providing for the wants of the widow  
and the orphan. Even we hear of one noble-hearted  
citizen of St. Louis—after he had provided for his  
loved ones by insuring his life for \$100,000, and still  
desiring to do good—offering to provide for the wants  
of one hundred widows and their children, by insur-  
ing the lives of one hundred of our poor citizens for  
\$500 each.

To all such persons, and to our patrons and readers,  
we can commend the WESTERN MUTUAL LIFE INSUR-  
ANCE COMPANY. Among its Officers and Trustees we  
find many of our most prominent citizens—men who  
are known for honesty, integrity and financial abili-  
ty. Being Western men ourselves; and, as we labor  
under the conviction that we are as competent to  
take care of our own money as other men, or East-  
ern men, are for us; we have therefore taken a  
Policy in the WESTERN MUTUAL.

CHEESE.—Hon. Horatio Seymour, late candi-  
date for the first office in the United States, has  
recently been elected President of the American  
Dairymen's Association, and a short time ago  
delivered an address upon the subject of cheese.  
Mr. Seymour asserted that "cheese ought to be  
more generally used for food in this country.—  
The American people have lost the cheese-eating  
propensities of their forefathers. Cheese is the  
cheapest of all articles of food that can be used.  
Compared with meat, there are very important  
economies connected with it. It requires no fuel  
to prepare it. It is more nutritious, and we must  
look upon it as a substantial article of food. It  
is not a 'cheap luxury,' it is a cheap necessity.  
He hoped steps would be taken to present cheese  
as an article of common food to the favorable  
consideration of the poor of our cities. The at-  
tention of our Government should be called to  
the value of cheese as food for our armies.—  
There is no article so cheap for soldiers' rations,  
no article so nutritious, no article so easy of  
transportation."



### NEVER SATISFIED.

A man in his carriage was riding along,  
A gaily dressed wife by his side;  
In satin and lace she looked like a queen,  
And he like a king in his pride.

A wood-sawyer stood on the street as he passed;  
The carriage—the couple he eyed,  
And said, as worked with his saw on a log,  
I wish I was rich, and could ride.

The man in the carriage remarked to his wife,  
One thing I would do if I could,  
I'd give all my wealth for the strength and the health  
Of the man who is sawing the wood.

A pretty young maid with a bundle of work,  
Whose face as the morning was fair,  
Went tripping along with a smile of delight,  
While humming a love-breathing air;

She looked in the carriage—the lady she saw,  
Arrayed in apparel so fine,  
And said in a whisper, I wish in my heart  
Those satins and laces were mine.

The lady looked out on the maid with her work,  
So fair in her calico dress,  
And said, I'd relinquish position and wealth,  
Her beauty and youth to possess.

Thus it is in this world; whatever our lot—  
Our mind and our time we employ,  
In looking and sighing for what we have not,  
Ungrateful for what we enjoy.

### OUR WINTER EVENINGS.

We are of course reading in these long winter evenings. We are gathering treasure that is indeed valuable—that is not only of use, but is necessary. There is no civilization without. All the advantages that we have (over the savage) are brought about by this little operation, reading. And each man must do it for himself. It must be done daily, yearly. Remember, we are constantly forgetting—and to supply this alone, requires considerable reading, thinking. It is therefore indispensable that we inform ourselves, or those who are informed, freshen their memories and add to their information.

If it is a burden to do this, it is a bad sign. It is doing labor up-hill and with an effort—and, unless there is a steadfast ambition to achieve, the undertaker is apt to fall out by the way-side. As well might he give out in following the plow or gathering the harvest. Now is the time to lay up store for the winter of our labor, which is the summer. The mind improved is so much favor to the body, informing it how to do better and cheaper.

First of all, get up a habit of winter-reading. This is a great help. The ice must be broken—and it is often most difficult to do this. Once secured, the thing will be comparatively easy. Only the student knows what advantage there is in being prepared to meet the exigencies of life—how it prepares one for the battle of life. It is an armor. The thought is there; you placed it there. You use it in argument against your

antagonist; you use it in the ordering of your farm—you have acquired something new—something that your neighbor might have known—but that you now see for the first, because now you appreciate it, having learned it. You are thus gaining a power—a power over your neighbors, that were as wise as you. You have now the advantage over them—and you will keep it if you continue as you have begun, and they remain as they are. They will, by-and-by, be almost out of sight—and you will find yourself in other society—higher, more intelligent, more respectable. This you cannot help; it is the effect of your reading—your being found with your book in hand these long winter evenings, which are so healthy, and have so much vigor for the system. Here is a man's hold upon life—in these quiet lamp light hours, taking in the necessary knowledge, which arms him so for the battle of life.

Read well what you read, rather than much. Much reading confuses, and generally hurts (the mind) more than it benefits. Get knowledge, as you would get information on your way to some place; get it to benefit you, with respect to a certain purpose. You ask a man's advice in a certain emergency. He is competent, and gives it. With what attention you receive it, and with what interest you go to work to achieve what he has directed you to do. So you are directed by the most competent men (through their books) what to do, on any subject that you might select; all are treated by the ablest minds. On farming there is no lack. We have already mentioned the different works, which embody the experience of the ablest farmers. Read them and get what they know. You will then be their equal, so far as that knowledge extends; and if you enlarge your reading, you will surpass them—for the greatest men are surpassed by the lowest, if the lowest have information they possess not. A school-boy of the present day could teach Newton. We are what we are by virtue of our acquirements. Let us study then, and improve these fine winter evenings. In the spring we will come out enlightened and armed.

### The Love of the Beautiful.

Place a young girl under the care of a kind-hearted, graceful woman, and she, unconsciously to herself, grows into a graceful lady. Place a boy in the establishment of a straight-forward, thorough-going business man, and the boy becomes a self-reliant, practical business man. Children are susceptible creatures, and circumstances, scenes, actions, always impress. As you influence them, not by arbitrary rules, nor by stern example alone, but in a thousand other ways that speak through beautiful forms, pretty pictures, so they will grow. Teach your children, then to love the beautiful. Give them a corner in the garden for flowers, encourage them to put it in the shape of hanging baskets, allow them to have their favorite trees, learn them to wander in the prettiest woodlots, show them where they can best view the sunsets, rouse them in the morning, not with the stern "time to work," but with the enthusiastic, "see the beautiful sunrise!" Buy for them beautiful pictures, and encourage them to decorate their rooms each in his or her own childish way. Give them an inch and they will take a mile. Allow them the privilege and they will make your home beautiful.

### A Private Letter.

FRIEND COLMAN: For several years I was a reader of the "Valley Farmer," when published in the old pamphlet form; but the commencement of the war severed the connection and I lost many benefits. I feel deeply interested in it, and congratulate you on your success. May you live long to advocate and ennoble the independent calling of the farmer and the horticulturist.

I was raised on a farm, but, at the age of twenty, began merchandising, and have followed it closely for twenty-four years. I begin to desire the pleasures of rural life, believing that a constant contemplation of Nature in agricultural pursuits is calculated to raise our thoughts from the gifts to the Great Giver, purifying our desires and leading us to aspire to the higher and holier duties of life—the "duties we owe to God—our neighbor and ourselves."

D. C.

[Written for Colman's Rural World.]

### OUR OLD FRANKLIN STOVES.

We have all sung *The Old Arm-Chair*, but who has ever sung *The Old Franklin Stove*? Those broad and flared old originals, with their spreading hearths and big capacity for wood; how fondly I remember them! I would give a section of land on the spot for a pair of them now. They are rural within and without—all over and all under—behind and before. They ring of apples and toast, of cider and johnnycake—perhaps of scorched pants and a box on the ear too. This is the ring I never liked—all else is the *Auld Lang Syne* that goes to the heart: would that it reached the toes to-night, instead of chilblain! But, this is all dreaming; who will resurrect the reality? who make glad the hearth of old-fashioned ruraldom?

We call for the old Franklin again—none of your fluted pepper-boxes. The old genuine, with its kitchen hearth and cord-wood width. We lean towards first principles; we cotton to home philosophy. Our Jew's-harp discourses in *Lang Syne*.

The man, or woman either, who happens to stray away into the moss-grown road of the old regime—into the obsolete stover of—who knows where? and then and there finds one or two of these old Franklins, let him, or her, remember me in my sorrow. Such an one shall have the best genius of my ink-stand in my book of the Benevolents.

Who'll do better than this? Who calls as I do here?—Give us again the old-fashioned Franklins, to make glad our rural homes, as in the days of Bonhomme Richard! We want them; we need them! N. M. HARDING.  
Nevada, Vernon Co., Mo.

The following sentiment is attributed to Napoleon Bonaparte: "A handsome woman pleases the eye, but a good woman pleases the heart. The one is a jewel—the other a treasure."

"Shingle Weddings" have been started in some of the Western States, to be given by newly married couples if they live together happily for a year. They are not of frequent occurrence.



## Natural History.

### OWLS.

Owls belong to the first great order Raptores, or birds that subsist by rapine, and to the third family Strigidae, or the owls. The first species to be described, is the Snowy Owl, *Nyctea nivea*.—Daudin.

When the dead of cold winter wraps the frozen earth in its spotless covering; when the gay twitter of the little barn swallow, and the sweet song of the wood thrush have long been unheard; when the noisy wren and the sociable chirping sparrow have long been absent from our gardens, then the Great White Owl makes its appearance in Pennsylvania. Its home is the frozen North, and its visits to us are but transitory—as soon as the severity of winter begins to slacken, it is off for its icy home. Unlike most of our owls, the Snowy Owl hunts during the day as well as in the dusk, and often is so extremely kind as to carry off a chicken from the barn-yard to appease its hunger. A friend residing in Frederick county, Md., some winters ago, shot one while in the act of devouring a hen. It was contentedly seated upon a snow heap, and was shot from the "smoke-house" window. It was considered a rare bird in that region. In our State and in New Jersey it is by no means rare; on the contrary, many are seen and killed every winter. The further South we proceed, the rarer it becomes, and may be said to be a scarce bird in South Carolina. The Snowy Owl preys upon hares, rabbits, grouse, ptarmigan, squirrels and fishes, and has been known to devour musk-rats when caught in traps.

For those unacquainted with this bird, we give a description: The plumage white; head and back spotted with dull brown; wings, tail and lower parts barred with dusky brown. Some very old birds are pure white. It measures from the tip of the bill to end of tail 24 to 27 inches, and weighs about four pounds.

The Saw-whet Owl, *Nyctale acadica*.—Gmelin, is the smallest owl found in the Eastern and Middle States. It rarely quits its retreat until night has well set in, being strictly nocturnal. It is called "saw-whet" from the shrill grating note it utters, mostly during the love season, which is similar to the whetting of a saw. The various kinds of mice constitute principally its bill of fare. Singularly enough, this grotesque little night lover, now and then makes visits to our cities, doubtless to become more wise or wiser in city life. Several have been captured alive in Philadelphia, and Audubon says that he has known them to have been caught in Baltimore and Cincinnati.

Description:—Upper parts reddish brown, tinged with olive; neck, rump and scapulars, with white spots; face whitish ash; throat white; under parts ashy white, with longish patches of brownish red. First quills obliquely barred with white; tail with two to three narrow white bars; bill and claws dark; eyes yellow. Length 7 to 8 inches.

The Barn Owl, *Strix pratincola*.—Bon., is far more numerous in the Carolinas than in the Middle States. A short time ago I saw a very fine specimen that had been shot near German-town. This species deserves protection by the farmer, as it is an excellent mouser, and soon diminishes the number of rats and mice which infest the barn, when it takes up its abode in the vicinity. Its food consists of field, meadow and domestic mice, rats, moles, ground-squirrels, and other small animals, which it pounces upon in the twilight and in the night. It never leaves its resting-place during the day. The flight of the Barn Owl like the other species is noiseless, so that it can approach very near its prey unheard. It has its retreat in hollow trees and crevices in old neglected buildings, and in such places lays its eggs and rears its young unmolested.

Description:—Upper parts gray yellowish

brown, each feather having a middle streak of dark brown, terminated with a rounded grayish white spot; wings the same. Beneath pale fawn color, but frequently pure white, with small spots of brownish black; under parts of wings and tail white; tail with four or five blackish bands. Face white, with spots of dark brown around the eyes; eyes nearly black. Total length 16 inches.

The Great Horned Owl, *Bubo Virginianus Atlanticus*.—Cassin, is the most detested owl of the agriculturist, and the most powerful and daring species found in America. Woe is it to the poultry who choose to roost on tree branches rather than in the hen-house. Unlucky it is for the young turkeys when this blood-thirsty marauder finds out their roosting place. The great Owl never devours the game it has struck on the spot, but bears it off to the woods to sup in security. The hootings of the Horned Owl are hideous and diabolical in extreme—well may they fill the lone traveler with terror and dismay, when in the stillness of the night, in gloomy solitudes, these unearthly discords break upon his ear. It also has a habit of snapping its bill, or loudly clashing its mandibles. Often have I been greeted with this threatening signal.

The Horned Owl subsists upon prairie hens, pheasants, young turkeys, both wild and domesticated, chickens, ducks, squirrels, rabbits, &c., and it is the duty of every farmer to present them with some "hot shot" by way of variety. I have a large specimen now before me, which was shot in the township of Oxford, Pa. He had kindly relieved a farmer of quite a number of fine chickens, when suddenly a rifle bullet ended forever his career. Poor fellow, he deserved a better fate than to be stuffed for a cabinet!

Description:—Head with two erect ear-like tufts, which are brownish-black, mottled with light brown, top of head of the same color; face brownish red, with a circle of blackish brown; upper parts blackish brown, mottled and barred with brown and yellowish white; wings and tail light brownish red, also barred and mottled; under parts and breast light yellowish brown, barred with deep brown; several dark brown patches on the lower front part of the neck; chin white; feathers of the legs and feet reddish yellow. Eyes yellow. Length of male 18 to 23 inches, of female about 25.—*Rural American*.

### A SINGULAR ADVENTURE.

Once upon a time a traveler stepped into a stage-coach. He was a young man starting in life. He found six passengers about him, all gray-headed and extremely aged men. The youngest appeared to have seen at least eighty winters. Our young traveler, struck with the singularly mild and happy aspect which distinguished all his fellow-passengers, determined to ascertain the secret of long life and the art of making old age comfortable.

He addressed the one apparently the eldest, who told him he had always led a regular abstemious life, eating vegetables and drinking water. The young man was rather daunted at this, inasmuch as he liked the good things of this life.

He addressed the second, who astonished him by saying, he had always eaten roast beef and gone to bed regularly fuddled, for the last seventy years, adding, all depended on regularity.

The third had prolonged his days by never seeking or accepting office.

The fourth by resolutely abstaining from all political and religious controversies.

And the fifth by going to bed at sunset and rising at dawn.

The sixth was apparently much younger than the other five—his hair was less gray and there was more of it—a placid smile denoting a perfectly easy conscience, mantled his face, and his face was jocund and strong.

They were all surprised to learn that he was by ten years the oldest man in the coach.

"How is it that you have preserved the fresh-

ness of life?" exclaimed our young traveler.

The old gentleman immediately answered the young traveler by saying: "I have drank water and wine—I have eaten meat and vegetables—I have dabbled in politics and written religious pamphlets—I have sometimes gone to bed at mid-night, and got up at sunrise and at noon—" he then, fixing his eyes intently upon the young man, concluded with this remark: "I always pay promptly for my newspapers!"

Then the other old men also chimed in with—"Of course, we always pay promptly, and in advance, for our newspapers. No man deserves long life who does not do this."

Then the young man resolved that he also would render himself deserving of long life, and immediately subscribed for five newspapers, paying for them all in advance. He is living yet!

Reader, go thou and do likewise.

## DOMESTIC DEPARTMENT.

**PORK STEAK.**—This should be broiled the same as beef, except it requires to be done slower and much longer. If there is too much fire, it will blaze. Cut in around the bone that there shall be nothing that has a raw appearance. Season with butter, salt and pepper. They may be cooked in outlets like veal, with a little powdered sage and hard crumbs, or flour; fried in butter.

**FRESH MEAT GRIDDLES.**—Chop all the bits of cold, fresh beef or veal, season with salt and pepper; make a griddle batter, and lay on a spoonful on the iron well buttered, to prevent its sticking, then a spoonful of the chopped meat, then a spoonful of batter over the meat, and when cooked on one side then turn, and when done carry them on hot, and they are very nice.

**TRIPE.**—This should be boiled tender, pickled and cooked like soups, or broiled like steak, buttered and peppered well. If not pickled, it should be kept in salt and water, and changed every day while it lasts.

**CHICKEN PIE.**—Boil the chickens tender, or nearly so, having them cut in pieces. Make a rich crust, adding a little saleratus, and an egg or two to make it light and puffy. Lay it around the sides of the pan, and then lay in the chickens; between each layer sprinkle in flour, pepper, salt, and butter, with a thin slice of paste here and there. Then add the water in which they were boiled, and cover them. They should be baked an hour or an hour and a half, according to the size of the pie.

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Collinsville, Ill.

Jan 30-4t

## A MYSTERY--ANY PERSON

sending us their address with 25 cents enclosed, will receive by mail the name and carte-de-visite of their future wife or husband. NORRIS & Co., 52 John St. New York.

Jan 30-10t

## CRESYLIC & CARBOLIC COMPOUNDS:

### Cresylic Plant Protector,

For the protection of trees, plants, etc., from insects. In cans, 1, 3 and 5 pounds.

### Cresylic Sheep Dip:

A safe and certain cure for scab. Will also destroy vermin on sheep; increase the quantity and improve the quality of the wool.

### Cresylic Ointment

Destroys screw worm, cures foot-rot, and is a healing wash for galls and sores.

### Carbolic Disinfecting Soap

Will destroy vermin on animals and protect them from flies, etc.

### Cresylic Medicated Toilet Soap

Heals chapped hands, cutaneous eruptions, piles, etc.

### Cresylic Salt Rheum Soap

Cures salt rheum and similar diseases.

### Cresylic Laundry Soap,

For washing and disinfecting clothing, bedding, rooms, etc.

Also, ROOFING PITCH and FELT, CARBOLIC ACID, Etc.

Send for circulars and price lists to ST. LOUIS COAL TAR CO., 324 North 3d St., Saint Louis, Mo.

Jan 30-6m

## Vegetable and Farm Seeds.

Our Annual Descriptive, Priced Catalogue of Kitchen Garden Seeds, &c., for 1899, is ready for mailing to applicants. J. M. THORBURN & CO., Jan 2t Feb 1t] 15 John Street, New York.

## TO THE SEED TRADE.

Our Annual Wholesale List of Vegetable, Agricultural and Flower Seeds; also, Gladiolus, Japan Lilies and other Spring Bulbs, for 1899, is ready for mailing. J. M. THORBURN & CO., Jan 2t-Feb 1t] 15 John Street, New York.

## Fruit Trees for the Million.

1000 Apple Trees—100 rare and beautiful nursery grown Evergreens, and a general assortment of Small Fruits, can be had by any farmer in the West, for \$15.00—no humbug. Send stamp for Circular. Dr. JOHN E. ENNIS & CO., Jan 23-5t Great Western Nursery, Lyons, Iowa.

## For Sale, Spring of 1869,

At the Young America Nursery, a fine stock of Pear and Cherry trees. Apple one and two years old, Osage Hedge Plants and Seed, Evergreens, Maples, Grape Wood, Apple Root Grafts, and a General Assortment of Vines, Roses, &c. Address, MUSGOVE, PENCE & BARNES, Young America, Ills. Jan 23-4t

## Hop Roots for Sale.

Every farmer wants at least a half dozen Hop Roots for domestic use. We will send to any address, postage paid, No. 1 Hop Roots (English Cluster), at the following rates: 1 vine, 25 cents; 6 vines, 50 cents; 100 vines, \$2. Address, BARLER & CONDON, Upper Alton, Ills. Jan 30

## OAKLAND HERD--PURE BRED

Short Horns, of the most valuable strains of blood at all times for sale. Also,

## BERKSHIRE PIGS.

Catalogues furnished upon application. Jan 30-1yr D. M. McMILLAN, Xenia, Ohio.

## AGENTS WANTED

For the People's Edition of Conybeare & Howson's Life and Epistles of

## ST. PAUL,

With an Eloquent and able Preliminary Dissertation by Rev. LEONARD BACON, D. D., of Yale College. Embracing a graphic and eloquent delineation of the Early Life, education, conversion, teachings, labors, travels, sufferings, perils, persecutions and missionary career of ST. PAUL; thus constituting a living picture of the great Apostle, and of the circumstances by which he was surrounded.

No work in the language approximates it. Rev. Mark Hopkins, D. D., President Williams College. Solid, erudite, elegant, worthy the highest commendation. Bishop Thompson, of Ills.

A standard work of the highest character. Rev. Dr. Cray, St. Louis.

Dr. Bacon's name in connection with this edition is a tower of Strength. Rev. Jos. F. Tuttle, D. D., Pres. Wabash College.

Rife in scholarship, vigorous in style, extensive and accurate in its researches, deep and earnest in its piety. Prof. Bulkeley, Shurtleff College, Ills.

The most interesting and instructive work that has ever fallen under my notice. Pres. Caswell, D. D. LL.D., Brown University, R. I.

I do heartily recommend it as a faithful and valuable guide in the study of the Scriptures. Bishop McIlvaine.

It is one of the most valuable works ever issued from the press. Rev. Dr. Nutt, Pres. Ind. State University.

A perfect Magazine of facts. Bishop D. W. Clark. In its sphere it has no equal in interest or value, nor could you easily publish a better book. Rev. Willis Lord, D. D., Chicago.

It will accomplish great good for Christianity. Pres. Rice, Baker University, Kansas.

Commending this book is but gilding gold. Rev. C. H. Taylor, D. D., of Cincinnati.

I regard it as one of the best books ever written. Prof. Stowe.

A work of great practical value. Rev. Dr. Munsell, Pres. Ill. West. University.

Send for circulars, with full particulars, terms, and testimonials. Address, NATIONAL PUBLISHING CO., 178 Elm Street, CINCINNATI. Jan 30-2t

## SEED POTATOES.

HARRISON, \$2 per bushel; EARLY YORK, \$1.50; Also, 6,000 Evergreens, all sizes.

Address, GEO. M. DEWEY, Jan 30-8t Keytesville, Mo.

## NATIVE EVERGREENS

From Forest and Transplanted.

We will furnish the following varieties from forest 6 to 12 inches: Balsam Fir, American Spruce, Hemlock, White Pine, Red or Norway Pine, American Arbor Vite; also American Larch, Sugar Maple Seedling and Mountain Ash. Send for Circular. S. L. KEITH, Palatine, Cook Co., Ill. Jan 23-eow t Feb 20 then tf.

## THE RURAL GENTLEMAN:

A Monthly Journal of Horticulture, Agriculture and Rural Affairs.

Edited by a Practical Horticulturist, with a capable Assistant and occasional Contributors. Terms, \$1 a year, in advance. Specimens, by mail, 15 cents.

### CASH ADVERTISING RATES:

Transient advertisements 15 cents per line each insertion. Eight words constitute a line. Business Announcements 25 cts. per line. CANVASSERS WANTED EVERYWHERE. J. B. ROBINSON & CO., Proprietors. Oct 24-3m] No. 2 N. Eutaw-st., Baltimore, Md.

## Western Agricultural Depot and Seed Store.

## WM. KOENIG & CO.,

No. 207 North Second St., above Pine, ST. LOUIS, MO.

General Agents for

John Deere's



## DEERE'S

Genuine Moline Plows.

Deere's Walking Corn Cultivator

The Celebrated

## BUCKEYE

REAPER AND MOWER.

(The head and front of the Reaper and Mower Family.)

Brown's Improved Corn Planter

McSherry's Grain Drill,

&C. &C.

Agricultural Implements, Farm and Garden

## SEEDS.

WANTED Every Farmer

To send for our Descriptive Circulars—mailed Free to all Applicants.

Jan 23

### AGENTS WANTED FOR

## How to Make the Farm Pay

How to double the value of land and the profits on stock; how to raise three times the quantity of all farm crops to an acre, etc. 750 pages. 140 illustrations. Agents' Commissions \$100 to \$200 per Month according to ability and energy. Send for a Circular to ZEIGLER, McCURDY & CO., Philadelphia, Pa. Cincinnati, O., Chicago, Ill., or St. Louis, Mo. Jan 23-3s

## Veterinary Essay.

Now Ready—"PRIZE ESSAY, on PURGATIVE AGENTS TO THE HORSE" Price 25 cents. May be obtained from the author, T. K. QUICKFALL, V.S.,

Veterinary Surgeon, Lexington, Ky. N.B.—Address, without delay, to secure a copy, as it is no "catch-penny"—it will repay the reader well. 3mdcel2

## Fruit Farm for Sale.

The subscriber offers for sale, his well-improved Fruit Farm, near Iron Mountain R.R., Washington County, Mo.—6 acres in vineyard, 15 acres orchard, 2 frame houses, etc. etc. Will be sold cheap and on easy terms. For further particulars, apply to F. WILL, Hopewell Furnace, Washington Co., Mo., or to N. J. Colman, Rural World Office, St. Louis, Mo. Jan 30-3m



### A Cough, Cold, or Sore Throat.

REQUIRES IMMEDIATE ATTENTION, AND SHOULD BE CHECKED. IF ALLOWED TO CONTINUE, Irritation of the Lungs, a permanent Throat Affection, or an Incurable Lung Disease IS OFTEN THE RESULT.

**Brown's Bronchial Troches,**

Having a direct influence to the parts, give immediate relief.

For Bronchitis, Asthma, Catarrh, Consumptive and Throat Diseases, TROCHES ARE USED WITH ALWAYS GOOD SUCCESS.

#### SINGERS AND PUBLIC SPEAKERS

will find TROCHES useful in clearing the voice when taken before Singing or Speaking, and relieving the throat after an unusual exertion of the vocal organs. The TROCHES are recommended and prescribed by Physicians, and have had testimonials from eminent men throughout the country. Being an article of true merit, and having proved their efficacy by a test of many years, each year finds them in new localities in various parts of the world, and the TROCHES are universally pronounced better than other articles.

OBTAIN ONLY "BROWN'S BRONCHIAL TROCHES," and do not take any of the WORTHLESS IMITATIONS that may be offered.

Dec. 26-4m. SOLD EVERYWHERE.

#### GRAPE VINES.

We have a fine lot of strong, well-rooted vines, consisting of Concord, Hartford, Ives', Iona, Norton's Virginia, &c., which we guarantee to be inferior to none, and equalled by very few sent out by other parties. Price List now ready and sent to all applicants free. Address, E. A. RIEHL & BRO., Alton, Ill. Oct 3-6mos

**\$500,000** REWARD in Beautiful Presents have been paid our Agents in all parts of the Union, and we would say to the Ladies that for ONE DOLLAR we are selling Silks, Shawls, Dry and Fancy Goods, Silver Ware, Furniture, Diamond Watches, Pianos, Cabinet Organs, &c., &c. Presents worth \$2 to \$500 sent free of charge to Agents sending Clubs of ten and upwards.

Circulars sent free to any address. N. B. Shun all houses in this line with flaming advertisements, as they deceive you with long schedules and promises, which they have not the power or will to fulfill. Yours, very truly, **WYETH & CO.,** P. O. Box 2931. 42 Hanover St., Boston, Mass. Oct. 17-6m.

#### PREMIUM CHESTER WHITES FOR SALE.

We offer for sale, Singly, or in Pairs, Premium Pure Chester White Pigs, a number of them the progeny of our Gen. Grant Boar, the winner of 1st prize at the late Chester Co. Ag'l Fair. Also the winner of the 1st prize in the different States during the past fall. Pigs shipped in pairs warranted not akin. Breeding Sows now ready to serve. Address, W. T. & W. PAINTER, Jan 23-5m] Near West Chester, Chester Co., Pa.

#### YOU WANT MARTHA!

Every Grape-Grower wants it, as the Best, Most Valuable and Reliable WHITE WINE AND TABLE GRAPE, yet introduced to the American people. In every way as Perfectly Hardy, Healthy, Productive and Vigorous in Growth as the Concord, from which it is a Seedling. It is, however, more refined and delicate in flavor, and ripens about 10 days earlier. It is Sweet, Rich and Sprightly, and will occupy even a higher position among White Grapes than the Concord holds among black ones. Also, Splendid one and two-year Vines of Concord, Hartford, Ives, Delaware, Weehawken, Salem, Rogers' and Allen's Hybrids, Iona, &c. Send stamps for Illustrated Descriptive Catalogue of over 50 Varieties of Grapes and Small Fruits, to **GEO. W. CAMPBELL,** Delaware, Ohio. Jan 23-6m]

#### Apple Root Grafts

Carefully Grafted and put up in the best manner, at \$7 per 1000.

Orders for Special Varieties should be sent early in winter. Address **JOHN RIORDAN & CO.,** Jan 16-4m] Bloomington, Illinois.

### FRUIT TREES!

Send for a CATALOGUE of the PIKE COUNTY NURSERY. A large stock of Extra one-year-old Apple Trees; Splendid two-year-old Pear Trees; Grape Vines, &c., &c. Address, **STARK, BARNETT & CO.,** Oct 3-6m] Louisiana, Mo.

### GRAPE VINES

AND SMALL FRUIT PLANTS At low rates. Send for Price List. **E. R. MASON,** Nov 14-3m] Webster Groves, St. Louis County.

#### APPLE GRAFTS.

All the leading hardy Western Varieties. Send for Sample and List; will be sold very low. Apple Seed for sale—warranted fresh. **Dr. JNO. E. ENNIS & CO.** Jan 2-3m] Great Western Nursery, Lyons, Iowa.

### FOR SALE.

#### A Valuable Farm of 400 Acres,

In Benton County, Missouri. 280 acres Prairie, Improved and in Cultivation. 120 acres Fine Timber Land—contiguous. Abundance of stock water. Two miles of Hedge (Osage orange) fence. Forty acres fenced to pasture. 112 acres in winter wheat. 30 acres meadow.

This valuable farm is situated directly on the State Road, from Sedalia to Springfield; ten miles north of Warsaw, Mo.—within one mile of stores, post-office, blacksmith and wagon shops, daily line of stages and mails. A large assortment of farm machinery, tools and stock will be sold with farm if desired. Residence new and complete—six rooms. Price \$25 per acre. Enquire of **N. J. COLMAN,** Rural World office. Jan 2-6t

#### CHOICE SHORT HORNS.

SEND for Catalogue of the herd. Farm and residence adjoining Harriestown (Toledo, Wabash and Western R. R.), Macon county, Illinois. **J. H. PICKRELL.** May 23-1y.

#### 1869. Wm. H. LYMAN'S 1869.

Illustrated Floral Guide and Catalogue of SEEDS and PLANTS, is now published, containing descriptions of over 1,600 varieties of Flower Seeds and Plants. It is splendidly illustrated with about thirty elegant wood engravings and two beautiful colored plates; one of which will be the celebrated

"Mrs. POLLOCK" Geranium; colored from nature. In it will be found designs for arranging the flower garden, together with full directions for Sowing Seed, Transplanting, &c. This work will be sent free to all my customers, and to all others, on receipt of ten cents, which is not half the actual cost. I am also introducing to the Public my new Tomato, the **LYMAN MAMMOTH CLUSTER**, Dr. D. Rice, says: "Everybody should have it." For Illustrated Circular, containing description, recommendations, &c. Address **WM. H. LYMAN,** Importer of Seeds, Bulbs and Plants, Leverett, Mass. Jan. 2 t Myl

**WANTED—AGENTS—\$75 to \$300** per month, everywhere, male and female, to introduce the **GENUINE IMPROVED COMMON SENSE FAMILY SEWING MACHINE.** This Machine will stitch, hem, roll, tuck, quilt, cord, blind, braid and underbind in a most superior manner. Price only \$18. Fully warranted for five years. We will pay \$1000 for any machine that will sew a stronger, more beautiful, or more elastic seam than ours. It makes the "Elastic Lock Stitch." Every second stitch can be cut, and still the cloth cannot be pulled apart without tearing it. We pay Agents from \$75 to \$300 per month and expenses, or a commission from which twice that amount can be made. Address, **RESCOMB & CO., PITTSBURGH, PA.; BOSTON, MASS., or ST. LOUIS, MO.**

CAUTION.—Do not be imposed upon by other parties palming off worthless cast-iron machines, under the same name or otherwise. Ours is the only genuine and really practical cheap machine manufactured.

**WANTED—AGENTS—To Sell the AMERICAN KNITTING MACHINE.** Price \$25. The simplest, cheapest and best Knitting Machine ever invented. Will knit 20,000 stitches per minute. Liberal inducements to Agents. Address, **AMERICAN KNITTING MACHINE CO., Boston, Mass., or St. Louis, Mo.**

Jan 9-3t feb 5t

#### To Whom It May Concern.

Strawberry, Raspberry and Blackberry Plants, of all the Leading Varieties FOR SALE CHEAPER THAN EVER BEFORE OFFERED. Also Root Cuttings, Currant and Gooseberry Bushes, Grape Vines, Asparagus Roots and Early Rose Potatoes, all Warranted Genuine and of the Best Quality. Persons wishing to plant any of the above, would do well to send for a List of OUR LOW PRICES previous to purchasing elsewhere. Correspondence Solicited, and Satisfaction Guaranteed. **CHAS. COLLINS,** Jan 16-10t] Moorestown, N. J.

### HARRISON SEED POTATOES

For sale by **E. A. RIEHL & BRO.,** Alton, Illinois, at \$2 50 per bushel; \$6 per barrel. Jan 9-4m

### PURE BERKSHIRE PIGS.

Choice three months old at \$20 per pair. Address, **E. A. RIEHL & BRO.,** Alton, Ill. Jan 9-2m]

### Fresh Garden, Flower and

#### Tree Seeds, and Small Fruits,

PRE-PAID, BY MAIL.

A complete and judicious assortment. 25 sorts of either Seeds \$1.00. True Cape Cod Cranberry, with directions for culture on high or low land. New fragrant Everblooming Japan Honeysuckle, charming new hardy vine, 50 cents each, \$5.00 per dozen, prepaid. New Early Rose Potato, 75 cents per lb., 5 lbs. \$3.00, pre-paid. Priced Catalogues to any address, also trade lists. Seeds on Commission.

#### AGENTS WANTED.

#### B. M. WATSON,

#### Old Colony Nurseries & Seed Establishment

Plymouth, Mass. Established 1842. Jan 9-3m



### Fairbank's Standard SCALES,

OF ALL SIZES.

Fairbanks, Greenleaf & Co., aug 15-1y. 209 Market Street, St. Louis, Mo.

#### BOUND VOLUMES FOR 1866 & 1867.

Bound Volumes of the *Rural World* for 1866 and 1867, for sale at this office. Price, \$3 00 each.

#### Western Agricultural Depot and Seed Store.

**WM. KOENIG & CO.,** 207 North Second St., St. Louis, Mo.

#### Garden Seeds.

We have now ready our Annual Catalogue of **LANDRETH'S CELEBRATED GARDEN SEEDS,**

Which we will send free to all applicants. We are prepared to furnish Seeds to the Trade and to Consumers, in bulk, at low figures. To all those not already habitual purchasers of our Seeds, we would say, if you want Seeds that are FRESH AND GENUINE; TRUE TO NAME, AND NEVER FAIL—be sure to ask your dealer for those put up and sold by **WM. KOENIG & CO., St. Louis, Mo.** Our name will be found on every package. There is not a seed of any kind which leaves our house, but what has been fully tested beforehand. The purchaser can therefore rely on having a pure article. To the Trade we are prepared to make liberal terms by the hundred or thousand papers, or for seeds in bulk. We do NOT COMMISSION OUT OUR SEEDS, as is done by unscrupulous vendors of worthless seeds, who are forced to this plan to get their trash on the market, and thus deceive the unsuspecting purchaser. One season's trial of our seeds will so convince consumers that they will be sure over afterwards to ask for our seed to the exclusion of all others. We would also call attention to our large and assorted stock of FRESH AND RELIABLE

#### FARM SEEDS,

Such as Clover, Timothy, Blue Grass, &c. &c., which we are prepared to furnish at all times at the lowest market rates.

Respectfully,  
**Wm. Koenig & Co.,**  
ST. LOUIS, MO.

#### General Agents for the Celebrated Buckeye Reaper and Mower,

Deere's Genuine Moline Plows, Brown's Illinois Corn Planter, and McSherry's Wheat Drill, and Agricultural Implements in general. Circulars mailed free to all applicants, Jan 23-4t

## NEWS.

**UNITED STATES SENATORS ELECTED.**—Maine sends back to the United States Senate, Hon. Hannibal Hamlin, Ex-Vice-President, U. S. Massachusetts has re-elected Hon. Chas. Sumner. New York has chosen Ex-Governor Reuben E. Fenton, in place of Senator Morgan. Pennsylvania, Hon. John Scott. Delaware, Hon. James A. Bayard was elected by the Legislature as U. S. Senator to serve until March 4th, and his son Thomas Bayard to serve for the full term of six years. The only instance where father and son were elected to high office, by the same body on the same day. Michigan has re-elected Hon. Zacharia Chandler. Indiana, Hon. Wm. Cumbach, in place of Senator Hendricks. Missouri, Gen. Carl Schurz, the first German who ever held a seat in that body. Minnesota has re-elected Hon. Alexander Ramsey, by a majority of 39. Wisconsin has elected Hon. Matt. H. Carpenter, in place of Judge Doolittle.

**WASHINGTON, D. C., January 30.**—The proposed amendment to the constitution, intended to make suffrage impartial, has finally been carried through the House. It is in the following language:

Section 1.—The right of any citizen of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States, or any State, by reason of race, color, or previous condition of slavery of any citizen or class of the United States.

Section 2.—The Congress shall have power to enforce, by appropriate legislation, the provisions of this article.

**WASHINGTON, D. C., January 31.**—The subject of a protectorate over some of the islands of the West Indies has taken new shape, on account of some information lately received from that section. The House committee on Foreign Relations will meet to-morrow to consider the matter, and if Judge Orth, of Indiana, can get the floor, he will submit a proposition for the annexation of San Domingo, upon the following terms: It shall be admitted into the Union as a territory upon its adopting a Republican form of government, which shall be by and with the consent of the Government of San Domingo. This shall then be submitted to Congress for its approval, with a view to the final admission of the new territory as a State, any other territory in the West Indies to be received on the same terms. There is good authority for the statement that the desire for annexation is very strong among influential parties in several of the islands.

The Foreign Relations committee, so far as can be ascertained, are all but unanimous in disapproval of the Alabama claims treaty, and it does not seem to have scarcely a chance whatever of being favorably reported. Some members want to dispose of it by rejection at once, while others think it had better be carried over to the next administration. What conclusion will be reached as to this point, cannot now be told. The English legation here expect the treaty to be ultimately rejected, but believe it will go over to next winter.

The copper tariff bill as amended by the Senate, lies on the Speaker's table in the House, and an effort is to be made this week to call it up and put it through. It will probably pass whenever it comes before the House.

The Agricultural Report for 1867, is just now coming out of the government bindery, and will be in the hands of Congressmen for distribution next week.

**NEW YORK.**—Several capitalists went to Washington to-night to use their influence in favor of measures now before Congress relative to steamships and railroads.

The officers from Illinois arrived here this morning after Charles Montrose, the defaulter, who sailed yesterday in the Liverpool steamer.

The New Jersey Legislature will probably give permission for landing the French cable on the Jersey coast. Parties from Massachusetts are endeavoring to secure a landing place near Duxbury, and have commenced the erection of buildings for receiving the end of the cable.

**EAST ST. LOUIS, Jan. 31.**—Cattle.—Yesterday evening the ferry-boat Cahokia brought over the river some two hundred head of fine looking beef cattle, to be shipped North on the Chicago railroad. The same boat took back seventy-five horses and mules for some down town stock-yard.

**ST. LOUIS, Jan. 31.**—Dr. L. D. Morse, on behalf of the Missouri Commissioners of the American Convention of Cattle Commissioners held at Springfield Ill., has made a report to the Legislature. Nothing new to our readers was embodied.

**CHICAGO, February 1.**—A terrible tragedy occurred in Marion county, Iowa, thirty miles from Des Moines on Saturday. A man named G. Shaffer, who had twice deserted his wife, returned recently, and ordered her to leave her father's house. On Saturday he went there with a loaded revolver. His wife's mother met him at the door. After knocking her down with a chair, he served his wife similarly, and then shot her in the head, killing her instantly. He next fired three times at himself without effect, failing in which he gashed his throat with a butcher knife. The neighbors found him lying with his head on the bosom of his dead wife, and one of his children in his arms. He declared his predetermination to kill his wife, even if he had to murder the whole family. He was taken to Red Rock. His age is 25.

**TROY, February 1.**—Three laborers were killed and four wounded, by a premature explosion of glycerine, at a rock-blasting on the Lebanon railroad, in South Petersburg, Saturday morning. Those killed were horribly mutilated.

**ZANESVILLE, O., February 1.**—An engine attached to a freight train on the Central Ohio Division, of the Baltimore and Ohio Railroad, exploded near Barnsville this morning, killing the engineer and fireman, and severely injuring three train men.

## THE WEATHER

FOR THE WEEK ENDING JANUARY 29TH.

The past week has on the whole been very pleasant. Although the range has been somewhat greater than during the past four weeks, still, the weather has been of a favorable character.

The variations in the temperature have been in exact correspondence with the variations of the wind, which has varied from East to South and West, but predominating in the East, and less frequently or continuously in the North-west than it usually is.

During the first two days, the wind was in the East and South-east. On Monday it changed to West, and on Tuesday morning we had the minimum. It varied however early in the day, the thermometer rising rapidly, and continuing to rise till on the 28th it touched the high point of 64°.

On the 29th some rain fell, the wind changed, and the thermometer fell with great uniformity from seven in the morning till nine at night, at the rate of a degree and a quarter an hour. The wind was very high and boisterous; fortunately it fell during the night, which prevented the frost being severe.

A few particles of snow fell during the day, and the appearances are still threatening. A friend some weeks since remarked, that on the 28th Jan. 1842, the day was very warm and pleasant, and had been so during the month. On the 29th, the wind changed and the ground was frozen for two months.

Mean of the week, 40° 23.

Maximum on 28th at 2 P. M., 64°.

Minimum on 26th at 7 A. M., 21°.

Range, 43°.

## ST. LOUIS GENERAL MARKETS.

OFFICE OF THE RURAL WORLD AND VALLEY FARMER, February 2, 1869.

During the last week, business has been rather dull. Midwinter is hardly a time when any very animated time in commercial circles can be expected. Flour was quiet, barley stiff and scarce, while there is some improvement in corn. Sooner or later, the truth which we have contended for, viz., that the corn crop is short, will have to be acknowledged. Oats are also a shade higher.

The receipts of cattle have been liberal, but the quality is no improvement on what we have had, and if there is a lot of good shipping steers, they are immediately gobbled up for the Eastern markets.

It has been asserted, that the high price of pork is not owing to scarcity, but to the speculators, who wish to hold out the idea of scarcity, in order to profit by the same; but, if such is the fact, the farmers share in the benefit—because there is no disparity between the prices the farmers receive and those demanded by the packers. Mutton sheep are in demand, and those of a good quality bring No. 1 prices. We quote:

**TOBACCO**—Prices exactly as given last week.

**HEMP**—Prime, undressed \$140.

**FLOUR**—XX \$7@7.50; XXX \$8@8.50; fancy \$9; choice family \$10@10.50.

**CORN MEAL**—Dull and unchanged; \$3.30@3.40.

**WHEAT**—Iowa spring, No. 2 \$1.30@1.31; common white winter, \$1.80; choice, \$1.86.

**CORN**—Mixed 71c; yellow 72c; white 74c for No. 1.

**OATS**—White 63c; for clean seed 70c.

**BARLEY**—Spring, choice Iowa \$1.90@2; for 2 40.

**RYE**—\$1.25@1.27; sacks included, \$1.35.

**SEEDS**—Timothy, \$3.35; flax, \$2.35; Hungarian \$1.35@1.60; hemp, \$1.25@1.30; clover, \$1.11@1.12.

**HOPS**—Very dull, and no sales; Wisconsin 75c.

**BUTTER**—Inferior, 23@25c; common, 24@25c; choice roll, 34@37c; selections, dairy, 40c.

**EGGS**—18c; dull and stock large.

**CHEESE**—Ohio factory, 21½c; New York, 22@23c; English dairy, 22@23c.

**APPLES**—Common to choice, \$4.25@7.75 bbl.

**CRANBERRIES**—\$24@27 (cultivated) 3 bbl.

**DRIED FRUITS**—Apples, ready sales at 10@12c; peaches slow, common halves 35.

**BROOM CORN**—Firm; good to prime \$200@250.

**HIDES**—Western dry flint, 23c; southern, 22½c; dry salted, 19@20c; green salt, 11@11½c.

**BEANS**—Castor, \$2.35; inferior white, \$1.50@1.60; medium, \$3@3.75; choice, \$4@4.25.

**LUMBER**—Yellow pine, dull; 8 cars dimensions; lots \$18; good green flooring, \$24 3/4 M.

**SALT**—Domestic \$3.25; G. A. 3 sack \$2.50.

**COFFEE**—Rio, fair 23@24c; choice Rio 25½c.

**SUGAR**—Cuba, 12½@13½c; Porto Rico, 13½c; Louisiana, 12@14½c.

**RICE**—10@11½c; Louisiana, 9½@10½c.

## St. Louis Live Stock Market.

Receipts of cattle are fair; quite equal to the demand. Prime shipping steers are scarce; a good termed butchers' stock, had better remain on the farm than to be sent to market in the condition in which they are. There can not be a more ruinous course to farmers than to send their stock forward half fattened, when prices are not according to size but to quality.

Hogs are not received in numbers sufficient for demand, and prices rise a little as the close of the packing season approaches.

Strictly No. 1 steers will bring \$7@7.25; new grade \$6@6.50; fair butchers' stock \$5.50@6; weighing less than a 1,000 gross \$4@4.50; low grade at so much per head.

Hogs—Best quality of packing hogs 250@260 lbs. \$11—200@250 lbs. \$10.50@10.75; good store hogs \$7.50.

Mutton sheep—According to quality, \$3@4 per head.

## Chicago Market.

**CHICAGO, February 1.**—Eastern exchange is in demand at 1-10 given for selling, and 1-10 discount for buying. Flour dull at \$5@6.50 for fair to choice spring extras. Wheat quiet and firmer at 1½@1½½. Sales of No. 1 at \$1.10@1.12; No. 2 at \$1.13@1.14, closing at \$1.14@1.14½; since 'Change \$1.14½@1.14½ asked. Corn firmer and less active, and higher. Sales of old No. 1 at 64c; No. 2 62½c at 57½@57½; new at 56½@57½, and no grade at 55½c, closing at 57c for new; old No. 1 sold at 54c, seller, last half April, and all May. Nothing done since 'Change. Oats dull at 49@49½ for No. 2, and 46@46½ for rejected, closing dull inside. Rye dull at \$1.16@1.17 for No. 1, and \$1.14½@1.15 for No. 2, closing at \$1.16 for No. 1. Barley dull and unsettled. Sales of No. 2 at \$1.73½@1.75, and rejected at \$1.40@1.43, closing at \$1.72 for No. 2. Highwines last nominal at 90@91c.

Mess pork active: 25@50c higher; sales at \$18.75@31, cash—closing firm at \$30.75. Lard firm; 20@20c offered; 20½c asked. Sweet pickled hams 13c. Dry salted shoulders 13½c. Dressed hogs fairly active: 25@50c higher; closing at \$13@13.75 for driving on 200. Live hogs quiet; \$10.50@11 for good choice. Beef cattle firm, but not active; \$6@6½ for fair to medium cows and stock steers; \$7@8 for good to choice shipping steers. Receipts the past 24 hours—8,506 bbls flour; 28,633 bus wheat; 18,500 bus corn; 26,984 bus oats; 6,320 bus rye; 1,300 bus barley; 2,851 hogs. Shipments—8,160 bbls flour; 8,555 bus wheat; 14,595 bus corn; 19,296 bus oats; 1,850 bus rye; 2,409 hogs.

**LARD.**—In the afternoon there was a fair demand for No. 2 wheat at \$1.14½@1.14½—closing steady at \$1.14½@1.14½. Corn and oats dull and nominal unchanged. In the evening wheat sold at \$1.14½—closed at \$1.16. Provisions were moderately active: sales 2,270 bbls mess pork at \$31, cash; 1,000 bbls on Mississippi river at \$31.50, buyer February; 100 bbls do buyer February, \$31.50. Sweet pickled hams 13c cash; Cumberland 15½c cash; dry salted shoulders 13c cash; do buyer February, at Alexandria, 11½c; rough sides 15c cash.